



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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8 March 1991

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OAU Decision on Member States' Contributions

*AB0503180091 Dakar PANA in English 1730 GMT
5 Mar 91*

[Text] Lagos, 5 March (NAN/PANA)—The OAU Council of Ministers has suspended hiring new personnel from member-countries owing more than two years in arrears of their contributions. The decision was part of the sanctions adopted at the council's just-concluded 53rd session in Addis Ababa.

A communique issued at the end of the meeting also said the council reserved the right to review the quota of member-states which did not clear their arrears estimated at 45 million US dollars. It noted that prompt payment of dues was a basic precondition for keeping a regional organisation viable, especially when it has been established that most of the defaulting members were usually up to date in their financial obligations to other organisations such as the UN.

The Council's decision followed a strong case made by Nigeria that sanctions against defaulters were a means of tackling the chronic financial problem of the OAU. Meanwhile, Nigeria has also reiterated its previous proposal for the setting up of an OAU boundaries commission to handle all unresolved boundary issues which often led to intra-African conflicts.

The Nigerian external affairs minister, Major General Ike Nwachukwu, said during the council's debate that the call had become necessary because an existing 10-member committee on the subject had not been able to meet since its set-up several years ago. The minister called on the OAU secretary-general to come up with workable proposals since existing charter and ad-hoc arrangements designed for the responsible management of boundary-related conflicts had not worked satisfactorily.

PANA Launches Daily Bulletin Service 7 Mar

*AB0707161691 Dakar PANA in English 1230 GMT
7 Mar 91*

[Text] Dakar, 7 March (PANA)—THE PAN AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY (PANA) has launched in Dakar its daily news bulletin service for diplomatic missions,

international organisations, media houses, big companies and government institutions.

Speaking at the launch Wednesday, attended by some ambassadors accredited to Senegal and by the representative of the Senegalese minister of culture and communication, among others, the director-general of PANA, Auguste Mpassi-Muba, said the bulletin, which will be sold through subscription, will be made up of selected stories from the agency's daily newscast to African national news agencies.

Mpassi-Muba said the launching of the bulletin—100 copies of 20 pages each was published—is to correct the wrong view that PANA is a fantasy, as given by a particular journal in Dakar which complains of only being aware of its difficulties and not its products.

Stressing that the publication of the daily bulletin was facilitated by the recent computerisation of the editorial operations of the agency, the director-general said the new service aims at making profit while at the same time helping to make the products of the agency, which began operations on 25 May 1983, better known.

Launching the bulletin, the Ivorian ambassador in Senegal, Jules Hie Nea, said the world needed Africa and should discover its talents in oral and written expressions through the continental agency. He also praised the dignified and courageous manner in which PANA has faced up to a very serious financial crisis.

The representative of the Senegalese minister of culture and communication, Cheikh Tidiane Diongue, described the bulletin as a first which undoubtedly translates the willingness of the authorities of this institution (PANA) to diversify its products in a competitive market that is more and more being marked by the exigencies of national and international public opinion.

The regular subscription to the bulletin is fixed at 25,000 F CFA (about 100 dollars) per month, 140,000 F CFA (about 560 dollars) for six months and 260,000 F CFA (about 1,000 dollars) per year. A higher subscription rate is also available for supporters of the agency.

Cameroon**Three Opposition Political Parties Approved***AB0303123691 Yaounde Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 3 Mar 91*

[Text] In line with the current political changes in Cameroon, the minister of territorial administration today signed three decisions authorizing the legal existence of three political parties. They are the Union of Democratic Forces of Cameroon, UFDC, based in Yaounde; the Cameroonian People's Republican Party, PRPC, with its headquarters in Bertoua; and the Social Democratic Front, SDF, based in Bamenda.

These three political parties, whose applications were received at the Ministry of Territorial Administration on 15 and 18 February, can henceforth carry out their activities with due respect for the Republic's laws and regulations.

Parties Complain of Harassment*AB0503094491 London BBC World Service in English
1709 GMT 4 Mar 91*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Cameroon's political scene suddenly looks a lot more open following the registration of three more political parties over the weekend, including John Fru Ndi's SDF [Social Democratic Front]. The total number of registered parties has now reached five, however, there is still no election date, nor yet a constitutional conference scheduled, and opposition parties want things to move a lot faster. In Yaounde, Bo Hebert has been talking to the politicians. He telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] When I spoke to top officials of three opposition parties this morning, all of them expressed indignation at the fact that there is still no timetable for the democratic process, or any clear distinction between the government, the state, and the ruling party. They pointed to the rallies held by ruling party late last month, which were sponsored with state funds. One of the opposition leaders, (Gustave Essaka) of the Cameroon Integral Democracy Party, DIC, suggested that President Biya should resign his leadership of the ruling party in order to [word indistinct] up the confusion.

The leaders also complained to me that parties cannot operate freely while awaiting recognition. Last weekend, the doors of conference halls and public buildings and hotels in Yaounde were shut in the faces of leaders of an opposition party being created called the Cameroon Democratic Union. The leaders of this party include the former vice president of the ruling party, John Ngu Foncha, three former ministers in Paul Biya's government [words indistinct] northern politician, Moussa Yaya, who was expelled from the defunct CNU [Cameroon National Union] party by Cameroon's first president, Ahmadou Ahidjo.

Similar harassment has been faced by other parties in recent weeks. The three leaders I met this morning complained that their supporters were being harassed by security officers. They quoted an incident last week in the western Cameroonian town of Mbouda where an opposition party supporter was badly beaten up and then locked in a filthy cell where he died shortly afterward. When the news spread residents in Mbouda went on a rampage overturning cars, smashing windows, and assaulting police officers until the Army was called in to stop the trouble.

The leaders also attacked the official media for treating the opposition as enemies of Cameroon. Although the law provides for equal air time for all legal parties, this is still not applied. [end recording]

Antigovernment Riots Erupt*AB0803101091 London BBC World Service in English
0630 GMT 8 Mar 91*

[From the "African news"]

[Text] Reports from the Cameroon capital, Yaounde, say there have been antigovernment riots in the northern town of Manganga. A BBC correspondent in Yaounde says that thousands of people are reported to have taken part in a demonstration, burning cars and throwing stones at the security forces. The demonstration is said to have begun following the detention by the security forces of people suspected of involvement with opposition parties. There has been no confirmation of the rioting by the government.

Diplomatic Relations Established With Malaysia*AB0303130091 Yaounde Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 1 Mar 91*

[Text] The Government of the Republic of Cameroon and the Government of Malaysia today established diplomatic relations. The communique issued to this effect states that the two sides, desirous of sustaining and consolidating their relations of friendship and cooperation in the mutual interests of their two peoples; based on their mutual attachment to the principles of international law and the aims and objectives of the United Nation's Charter on the need to preserve international peace and security; to ensure economic and social development and the elimination of colonialism and all forms of discriminations, have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level effective today.

Central African Republic**Political Prisoners Released on Court Order***AB0503213291 Paris AFP in English 2050 GMT
5 Mar 91*

[Text] Bangui, March 5 (AFP)—Twenty people in the Central African Republic, jailed since September for

urging broad-based talks on political reform, were released Monday night after a court ordered charges against them to be dropped, court sources said Tuesday. The 20 belonged to the Coordination Committee for the Convocation of a National Conference (CCCCN) which wants an end to one-party rule by the President Andre Kolingba's Centrafrican Democratic Movement. They were among a group of CCCCCN members arrested on September 12 while holding a banned meeting. The judge refused to order the release of five other committee members. Those freed included Abel Goumba leader of the opposition Oubanguian Patriotic Front, Henri Maidou, Emperor Bokassa's successor David Dacko and Francois Pehoua an ex-member of the Dacko government.

Congo

National Conference Provisional Presidium Meets

Distributes Internal Regulations

AB0503164291 Dakar PANA in English 1552 GMT
5 Mar 91

[Text] Brazzaville, 5 March (ACI/PANA)—The provisional presidium of the Congolese national conference on Tuesday distributed the draft internal regulation whose opening article proclaims that the conference was sovereign. The national conference is sovereign in the sense that it has full control over its internal regulations and its agenda. The decisions that it takes are imperative and for immediate execution, read the first article of the document, which was distributed to the conference's 1,100 participants and journalists.

The chairman of the provisional conference presidium, Louis-Sylvain-Goma, the country's prime minister, suspended the session at 11.00 hours saying the delegates should reconvene Wednesday morning to discuss the draft internal regulations. Observers at the Congress Palace in Brazzaville, where the meeting is taking place, believe that a heated debate will take place on the issue of the conference being sovereign in view of the existing polemics between the government and the Congolese Workers' Party (PCT—the former sole political party) on one hand and the various parties and associations on the other.

The argument of the government is that the current conference should not claim any form of sovereignty which it has not received from the people and that the existing national institutions continue to function until a new political order is established. The opposition parties, however, argue that the serious situation and crises in the country dictated the taking of special solutions.

Groups Want Outsider for Chairman

AB0703223591 Dakar PANA in English 1623 GMT
7 Mar 91

[Text] Brazzaville, 7 March (ACI/PANA)—The Free and Independent Youth of Congo and the Union of Congolese Students at the on-going Congolese national conference have suggested that the meeting's presidium chairman should be somebody who has not held any political or administrative positions in the past.

Introducing an element of conflict of generations at the conference, with the apparent intention to neutralise the political and administrative heavy weights of the old system, the youth organisations also asked that age should not be the determinant factor in the national conference.

Sources said their move was prompted by Article 8 of the statutes of the national conference which fixes the composition of the conference's presidium and Article 10 which talks of a five-member bureau chaired by the eldest member.

The last article caused indignation among the two youth groups who said age does not constitute a criteria of wisdom and that the youth have been trained to replace the aged.

Rwanda

Rebel Attacks Continue in Ruhengeri Prefecture

EA0803085891 Kigali Domestic Service in French
1450 GMT 7 Mar 91

[From the News Summary]

[Text] The aggressors are pursuing their attacks in Ruhengeri Prefecture. Today, the Rwandan Armed Forces also had to make full use of their know-how. Stanislas Kanyanzira is on the line:

[Kanyanzira] Kidaho commune Ruhengeri Prefecture, has continued to be the target of the rebels [inyenzi] since last Monday. The Armed Forces were able to repulse the first attack by inflicting on the enemy losses amounting to more than 100 men and seizing an important quantity of their arms.

The enemy then launched sporadic attacks without any result. Today, at dawn, they launched a massive attack by pounding Rwandan positions from within Uganda. At around 1600, the Rwandan Armed Forces were still fighting with the enemy, but most of the enemies had retreated towards Uganda. [sentence as heard]. The people, on their part, contributed to the search for the enemy by clearing the natural border in the Cyanika sector.

Sao Tome & Principe

President Trovoada Comments on Future Policies

AB0603165291 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1830 GMT 4 Mar 91

[Text] Miguel Trovoada has won yesterday's presidential elections in Sao Tome and Principe. He is said to have won between 81 and 84 percent of the votes cast, according to unofficial results received from the Centralization Commission. Miguel Trovoada, an independent candidate who nonetheless enjoyed the support of the opposition party, which holds the parliamentary majority, the Democratic Convergence Party, is therefore going to succeed Manuel Pinto da Costa, who had decided not to stand again for the position. Less than 48 hours before the polls, the two opponents of Mr. Trovoada—Guadalupe de Ceita and Afonso dos Santos—took themselves out of the race. What actions will the new president take? He confided to Jean-Valere Mbina-manza. Let us listen to Miguel Trovoada:

[Begin Trovoada recording] I am going to try to build or complete the judicial edifice in a state that respects the rule of law. I will ensure that the democratic system is consolidated. I will therefore be above all parties. And I will do the best I can to give the Sao Tomean state an image of dignity and abolish all bottlenecks. Concerning the topic of progress: I will participate with the cabinet in the great task of economic and social recovery, considering the wrecked state in which our economy finds itself. And I will do my best that this imperative of social justice be applied in my country; that is to say, I will try to strengthen and widen the relations of cooperation between our country and the neighboring countries, in particular, with the countries of Portuguese culture, and finally, with all others who might be ready to align themselves with us as partners in development. [end recording]

Zaire

UDPS Leaders Present Political Program

EA0403205091 Mbuji-Mayi Domestic Service in French
1630 GMT 4 Mar 91

[Text] On Sunday [3 March], the Union for Democracy and Social Progress, [UDPS], made a surprise [word indistinct] in the capital. The (?four) members of its leadership—notably (Makasa Mayimba), (Kiseke Diyu Mulumba), Professors (Liau), and (Mbwakene) presented to a large crowd gathered at the [words indistinct]

of Ndjili their political program. For the [UDPS], Zaire will (?be organized into) a federal state in which every citizen fully enjoys his basic rights. On the economic front, the UDPS commits itself to free enterprise. (?It will be against) corruption. The biggest job, according to (Kiseke Diyu Mulumba), is to develop the infrastructure. By this he means the construction of roads, schools, hospitals, and electrification. [passage indistinct]

Bishops Criticize Blocking of Democratic Process

AB0403182491 Paris AFP in French 1514 GMT
2 Mar 91

[Text] Kinshasa, 2 Mar (AFP)—The Permanent Committee of Bishops of Zaire today criticized the blocking of the democratization process in Zaire and called for a national conference on the issue. In a statement published today, the bishops expressed concern about the "explosive situation" prevailing in the country and deplored the authorities' resistance to the changes announced 10 months ago.

"Our country is experiencing an extremely serious socio-economic crisis, which is plunging our people into the most indescribable misery ever experienced in times of peace", the bishops stated. According to them, people assigned to find suitable solutions "are displaying an attitude of indifference and even a disturbing serenity." The committee stressed "the need" and "the urgency for a genuine transition" toward a new social order. The bishops also undertook to found a Catholic press outlet to educate and train people on the values of the Gospel, development, and a healthy democracy.

National Meeting Forms Farmers Union Alliance

AB0603141591 Dakar PANA in French 1431 GMT
4 Mar 91

[Text] Kinshasa, 4 Mar (PANA)—The Farmers Union Alliance (ASP) has been created in Zaire at the end of deliberations at the first national farmers conference which ended recently in Kinshasa, it was learned yesterday from reliable sources there. The new organization will be supervised by a national steering bureau and branches in each of the country's regions.

Farmers make up more than 70 percent of Zaire's population but play no part in decision-making on agriculture which is their professional activity, the same sources note. The new trade union association was set up with the aim of encouraging and promoting any initiative or action which would improve the general situation of Zaire's farmer population.

Djibouti

Somali Official on Talks Outside Mogadishu

AB0703180691 Paris AFP in English 1617 GMT
7 Mar 91

[Text] Djibouti, March 7 (AFP)—Somalia's provisional government will agree to hold national unity talks outside the capital if that improves their chance of success, minister of state for foreign affairs Abdullahi Sheikh Ismael has announced. Mr. Abdullahi on Wednesday said the discussions could even take place, "if necessary," at Hargeysa in northern Somalia, stronghold of the Somali National Movement (SNM), the largest armed group in the region. "If the mountain will not move, we shall go to the mountain," Mr. Abdullahi declared during a working visit to Djibouti, it was reported here Thursday.

The national reconciliation conference scheduled to take place in Mogadishu on February 28 was postponed until March 14 because the SNM and other movements refused to go to the Somali capital. The SNM accused rebels of the United Somali Congress (USC), who overthrew President Mohamed Siad Barre after a bloody battle in Mogadishu at the end of January, of setting up a provisional government and naming an acting head of state without consulting other rebel groups which had for years been seeking to topple Somalia's military strongman.

Regional observers said Thursday that where unity talks took place was of capital importance, since Mogadishu was currently controlled only by members of the USC, all from the Hawiye clan. Somalia's various rebel movements all largely represented different groups. The SNM in the north draws largely on the Issaq community. Much of southern Somalia has been in the hands of the Somali Patriotic Movement (SPM), which has recruited mainly among the Ogadeni people and includes army deserters from the Siad Barre [words indistinct].

Acting President Ali Mahdi Mohamed is from a sub-clan of the Hawiye and differences have been reported within the USC itself, partly as to whether reconciliation talks should be attended only by the three main armed movements or also by other unarmed groups that had campaigned for democracy. Fighting has continued in parts of Somalia since the fall of the Siad Barre regime.

(Witnesses quoted from Nairobi on Thursday reported gunfire between two USC rival factions at Mogadishu airport on Wednesday, which left an unspecified number of dead and some 20 wounded. Before that incident, hundreds of people tried in vain to board an Italian cargo plane that had unloaded food for the devastated Somali capital).

Mr. Abdullahi said he was convinced the SNM would attend a reconciliation conference "whether it takes place today or tomorrow" and that Somalia would remain one nation. At its congress in Berbera, in the

north, last week, the SNM considered revision of the treaty linking former British Somaliland in the north with the southern part of the country, formerly under Italian rule. Diplomats said the delegates rejected the idea of secession.

Mr. Abdullahi was in Djibouti partly for a meeting of some 30 Somali diplomatic representatives from various parts of the world, which finished on Sunday. Delegates agreed that a new government would abide by the charters of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity and respect principles of the Non-Aligned Movement, the Arab League and other Organization of the Islamic Conference.

The Somali minister was due Friday to take a message from acting President Ali Mahdi to Addis Ababa and then go on to Nairobi and Kampala. The international community has not yet recognized the provisional government.

RPP Congress Speakers Oppose Multiparty System

EA0303223291 Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali
1700 GMT 3 Mar 91

[Excerpt] The Fifth Congress of the Popular Rally for Progress [RPP] opened at the People's Hall this morning under the chairmanship of al-Haji Hasan Gouled Aptidon, the president of the Republic and chairman of the RPP. The congress discussed the multiparty system, security, and unemployment.

Regarding the multiparty system, all participants who spoke underscored their opposition to the introduction of such a system in the country, pointing out that it would lead to destruction, tribalism, and civil war. They stated the need, however, to strengthen democracy within the RPP so it could satisfy the aspirations and needs of the people.

On security, it was agreed to deal with problems at their source. On unemployment and the country's economic affairs, the problems in these areas were highlighted and possible solutions advanced. The training of youth in technical skills was also discussed. [passage omitted]

Uganda's Museveni Stops Over Enroute Home

EA0307134291 Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali
1700 GMT 6 Mar 91

[Text] President Yoweri Museveni, president of Uganda and current OAU chairman, has made a brief stop-over at Djibouti Airport. President Museveni was en route home from a visit to Iran. He was welcomed at the airport by the prime minister, Mr. Gourad Hamadou Barkat.

Ethiopia

Further Reportage on Fighting in Gojam, Gonder

Services Restored in Gojam

EA0403122091 (Clandestine) Voice of the Ethiopian People for Peace, Democracy, and Freedom in Amharic 0400 GMT 4 Mar 91

[Excerpt] After capturing the [name indistinct] development station in Gojam Administrative Area, our comrades have resumed its operations immediately. Our comrades took control of the station when liberating Gojam Administrative Area from the Worker's Party of Ethiopia's [WPE] injustice and ruthlessness in the Tewodros campaign, and the station's staff has calmly resumed work while the WPE criminals have fled. The station's electric power and water development services have resumed operations without any difficulty.

According to related news, the electric power and water services of Bahir Dar have resumed functioning after a one-day interruption. The operations resumed through efforts by Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front technicians and Bahir Dar workers. Development work in the valley has resumed, the report adds. [passage omitted]

EPRP Urged To Stop Gojam Attacks

EA0603162691 (Clandestine) Voice of the Ethiopian People for Peace, Democracy, and Freedom in Amharic 0400 GMT 6 Mar 91

[Statement No. 5 issued by the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, EPRDF, General Council on 5 March]

[Text] The EPRDF Army started its Tewodros campaign in order to destroy and annihilate the Dergue soldiers stationed in Gonder and Gojam and to free the people of the area from the ruthless and barbaric Dergue administration. In relation to this campaign, as can be recalled, the EPRDF issued a statement to the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party [EPRP] on 24 February 1991. The aim of the statement was to prevent clashes with the EPRP, who are in the western part of Gojam, while our army was campaigning to attack the Dergue soldiers in Gojam. The EPRDF Council also issued a peace call to the EPRP leaders and members. It attempted to demonstrate its convictions to the Ethiopian people and included them in the statement.

Even though the EPRDF has some political differences with the EPRP, such differences can be resolved peacefully and democratically and through the will of the Ethiopian broad masses. The EPRDF has no wish for any clashes with any opposition force. Based on the above conviction and stance, the EPRDF and the EPRP alike, both being Ethiopian organizations, have every right to move into any part of Ethiopia, including Gojam.

Based on the above conviction and goals, the EPRDF, from the very start of its campaign in Gojam, even though it had found the region highly conducive to mounting attacks on the Dergue, prevented its army from passing through the western part of Gojam. Even after it had completely wiped out the Dergue in Gojam, it did not enter EPRP-held areas. This was because it wanted to keep to its statement on peace. Since then it has devoted all its efforts to avoiding any clash with the EPRP.

But as for the EPRP, by turning on our peace statement they have initiated acts of aggression in some areas. It is known that on 4 March 1991, by placing landmines on the road, they destroyed one of our vehicles and on the same day ambushed and opened fire on our vehicles which were transporting our logistical equipment and tried to inflict damage on our units. This act was committed after the EPRDF's statement, which was issued to the EPRP leaders and its members, in order to avoid any acts which might lead to clashes. Even more, this is happening just as the EPRDF is carrying out its relentless struggle to wipe out the enemy of all the Ethiopian people, which is also the enemy of the EPRP. This aggressive act was aimed at our Army, when we were expecting the EPRP to give its consideration to our peace statements in a spirit of goodwill, when our Army feared nothing from the EPRP side and when our Army was relentlessly fighting the Dergue, which is trying to recapture Gojam by crossing the Nile River from Shewa. It was also when the EPRDF's whole attention was focused on its campaign to destroy the Dergue's soldiers stationed in the area.

This act clearly shows that the EPRP leaders did not consider our peace statements, since the act was carried out just as the EPRDF was struggling relentlessly to accelerate the downfall of the Dergue regime, and anyone found assisting the Dergue will not benefit the Ethiopian people. On this occasion we would like to express our feelings that neither the EPRP, the EPRDF, nor any other opposition group can benefit from this kind of act.

The EPRDF still holds to its 24 February statement. It also affirms that it will continue to hold to it scrupulously and will not undertake clashes with the EPRP or shed unnecessary blood. At the same time, the EPRP must stop its acts of aggression and must also restrain itself from such acts in the future. We would like to remind it once more to travel the path of peace.

[Signed] The EPRDF General Council, 5 March 1991

Rebels Say Government 'Beaten Back'

AB0803105491 (Clandestine) Voice of the Ethiopian People for Peace, Democracy, and Freedom in Amharic 0400 GMT 8 Mar 91

[Excerpt] The Dergue forces, which were deployed on the Dese and Guguf fronts to halt the victorious Tewodros campaign being carried out by the heroic Ethiopian

People's Revolutionary Democratic Front [EPRDF] popular army in Gojam and Gonder administrative areas, have been beaten back. The enemy attempt was made by its third Army Division. This was beaten off and repulsed and its attempt failed.

The attempt was made between 2 and 4 March. In repeated attempts over three days 691 enemy soldiers were killed, 1,006 wounded, while 37 others were captured, putting a total of 1,734 enemy soldiers out of action. Moreover, nine other soldiers surrendered voluntarily. One hundred and seven kalashnikovs, 12 Brno-Enfield [BREN] submachine guns, two rocket propelled grenades, and two light machine guns were seized in the fighting.

At the same, the enemy made a similar attempt on the northern Shewa front, and in an operation carried out by our combatants in Menz na Gishe Province on 6 March 1991 two enemy battalions and two army companies were destroyed, and another battalion of the 160th Brigade of the enemy's 11th Division was weakened. It has been learned that 410 enemy soldiers were killed, 110 wounded, and 160 others captured. Moreover, 274 light weapons of various types, 13 BREN submachine guns, 12 BREN guns, two 81 MM mortars, five radio communication sets, three pistols, and a large quantity of [word indistinct] and rounds of ammunition were seized. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Comments on Saudi Arabia Visit

EA0603165191 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 5 Mar 91

[Text] The Ethiopian foreign minister has held discussions in Riyadh, on ways of strengthening and improving existing relations and cooperation between Ethiopia and Saudi Arabia. While in Riyadh, Comrade Tesfaye Dinka, alternate Politburo member of the CC of the WPE, [Central Committee of the Workers Party of Ethiopia], deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, delivered a message from President Mengistu Haile-Mariam to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and held talks with the country's high ranking officials on various issues.

Comrade Tesfaye said both countries have expressed readiness to promote bilateral relations and that pertinent officials from the two sides had exchanged views on basic points for upgrading bilateral relations in various sectors. He also said his talks with Saudi officials focused on the situation in the Horn of Africa, the Persian Gulf, and the world as a whole.

He also said that while in Riyadh, he had met with the emir of Kuwait and other officials and had extended the congratulations of President Mengistu and the people and government of Ethiopia on the liberation of that country.

EC Delegation Briefed on RRC Activities

EA0503100291 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 4 Mar 91

[Text] A briefing has been given to the delegation led by the European member of parliament Mrs. (Margaret Daley) at the Ethiopian Relief and Rehabilitation Commission [RRC] on its activities. Comrade Yilma Kasaye, RRC commissioner, gave a comprehensive briefing on steps taken by the Ethiopian Government and donor organizations in a bid to contain the problems brought about by drought and manmade calamities last year. Outlining the activities being carried out in the northern part of our country, particularly in northern Welo, Tigray, and Eritrea, he explained the role played by the EEC in airlifting relief food aid from the port of Aseb to autonomous Eritrea. He went on to say that 35,000 tonnes of food had been airlifted from Aseb to Eritrea and noted that 32,000 tonnes of food aid has been distributed through the port of Mutsiwa to residents of Mutsiwa and its environs.

Somalia

Prime Minister Receives Visit of Saudi Delegation

EA0603163391 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 5 Mar 91

[Text] Mr. Omar Arteh Ghalib, the prime minister of the Somali Republic, has received a courtesy call from a Saudi Arabian delegation led by al-Sayid Khamis Husayn who arrived in the country for a visit. The aim of the delegation's visit is to discover the true picture of Mogadishu and Somalia in general. Mr. Omar Arteh briefed the delegation on the security situation in the country and the current problems, and on what the interim government is doing to solve them.

USC, SDM Discuss National Conference

EA0703133691 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 6 Mar 91

[Text] A meeting took place on 4 March between the United Somali Congress [USC] and Somali Democratic Movement [SDM] at which participation in the national conference to be held on 14 March was discussed. In the meeting, held at SDM headquarters in Mogadishu, the officials of the two movements discussed extensively, the best possible ways of implementing plans for the country's future, both sides reaching consensus on the need for every citizen to play a role in the preservation of the Somali people's unity.

The USC and SDM also reviewed the destruction of both property and lives, and problems brought by Siad Barre, the ousted dictator. They said the Somali people would never forget the crushing crisis they had gone through.

French Official Cancels Visit to Mogadishu*AB0803110691 Paris AFP in English 1006 GMT
8 Mar 91*

[Text] Nairobi, March 8 (AFP)—French secretary of state for humanitarian actions, Bernard Kouchner, will not travel to the Somalia capital as planned after continuing trouble at Mogadishu airport, a diplomatic source said here. Mr. Kouchner was expected in Nairobi on Friday. But he would not head on to Mogadishu as scheduled Saturday with food and medical aid for the Somali population because of the lack of airport security, the source said.

Four or five people were killed and another 20 injured at Mogadishu Airport Wednesday when shooting broke out between rival rebel factions of the United Somali Congress (USC), the armed movement controlling the capital after ousting president Mohamed Siad Barre in late January. The clash came after hundreds of people tried to scramble aboard an Italian cargo plane which had unloaded food supplies at the airport.

UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund, has estimated that 4.5 million Somalis in the capital and across the country, including 2.5 million women and children, are in need of emergency aid. Several neighborhoods of the capital were devastated in the fighting prior to the president's ouster.

Uganda**Prime Minister Meets U.S. Official, Ambassador***EA0503190291 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1400 GMT 5 Mar 91*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. George Cosmas Adyebo, has met the U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state, Mr. Irvin Hicks, in his office in Kampala. The assistant secretary of state, who was accompanied by the American ambassador in Uganda, Mr. John Burroughs, discussed with the prime minister a wide range of issues pertaining to Uganda and the U.S. Both acknowledged the increased excellent relationship between Uganda and the U.S., adding that Uganda and the U.S. are now closer than ever before.

Briefing the guest about the Ugandan economy, Mr. Adyebo said that Uganda has made headway towards rehabilitating her economy, adding that the country now has a bright future. In reply, Mr. Hicks said the U.S. is proud of what Uganda has so far done, and encouraged that the Uganda Government and people should keep up the spirit.

Saudi Envoy Delivers Message From King Fahd*EA0403095191 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 03 Mar 91*

[Excerpt] President Museveni has received a special message from King Fahd of Saudi Arabia. The message was delivered by Saudi special envoy Umar al-Faqi, who is also the minister of state. Mr. al-Faqi briefed the president on recent developments in the Gulf and on the current situation after the declaration of a cease-fire by the coalition forces. President Museveni told the envoy that he was glad that after the liberation of Kuwait, fighting had come to a stop. The meeting was attended by the minister of foreign and regional affairs, Mr. Kawanga Ssemogerere, and the minister for internal affairs, Mr. Ibrahim Mukiibi. Later the envoy left for home. [passage omitted]

Museveni Comments on Iran Trip, Rwandan Charges*EA0703113391 Kampala Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 7 Mar 91*

[Text] President Yoweri Museveni has returned home after a three-day state visit to Iran. He told a press conference at Entebbe International Airport on his return yesterday that Uganda and Iran had agreed to carry out an intensive program of trade designed to benefit the two countries.

He said arrangements are going to be carried out whereby Iran will purchase agricultural products such as beef and tea from Uganda. In return, Uganda will purchase industrial goods from Iran. Uganda will also purchase 5 million barrels of crude oil from Iran. The two countries will also cooperate in joint investments in the production of leather, beef, and other products.

Replying to a question put to him about continued Rwandese accusations that Uganda is involved in rebel attacks on Rwanda, President Museveni announced that he will ask for neutral OAU officials to come and be observers at the Uganda-Rwanda border to verify or dispel Rwandese accusations. He added that the issue of Banyarwanda [Rwandese] still in Uganda is due to be discussed in the NRC [National Resistance Council] soon.

On the ongoing exercise to return custodian board [assets] to the owners, President Museveni reiterated that this was the right thing to do.

The press conference was attended by the vice president, Dr. Samson Kisekka; the prime minister, Mr. George Cosmas Adyebo; and other cabinet ministers.

Bop Lifts State of Emergency at Midnight 7 Mar

President Announces 'Liberalization'

*MB0803090091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0834 GMT 7 Mar 91*

[Text] Mmabatho March 8 SAPA—Bophuthatswana has lifted its state of emergency, according to a statement released on Friday by the homeland's Public Relations Agency.

The emergency, which came into being in March last year, was cancelled from midnight on Thursday (March 7) as part of what the statement called "a bold new liberalisation programme".

At the same time, Bophuthatswana President Lucas Mangope said he would amend the homeland's security legislation to allow registered political organisations to hold public meetings without applying for permission.

The proposed amendments would make it necessary for political parties to register with the homeland authorities in terms of the Electoral Act.

"This will guarantee them full democratic and political freedom," the statement said.

"At the same time, political participation, as is the norm in the Western world, will be confined to citizens of Bophuthatswana."

The amended legislation is expected to be introduced within a fortnight and will include full definitions of the various organisations and individuals affected by it.

President Mangope said the lifting of the emergency and the proposed amendments were the "first shots in the government's plans to take the initiative and remain the master of its own destiny in the momentous changes sweeping the sub-continent".

However, President Mangope also sounded a warning to organisations seeking to operate in the homeland that the proposed amendments would not give them "a licence to disregard the laws of our land".

He said the amendments gave political parties space to operate and were a sign "of the government's commitment to the constitutional and democratic process and are a definitive move away from potential confrontational politics".

Any political party wishing to challenge the Bophuthatswana Government, should do so through the ballot box, and the statement said that any party that does not register, but still engages in "illegal activities, will be dealt with in terms of the law".

Political competition would be welcomed, but only along what he called constitutional lines. He said if the majority wanted it, the government would change, but only through the ballot box.

The statement said the homeland's government had recently been involved in discussions with political organisations, including the ANC [African National Congress] and the Inkatha Freedom Party.

These talks were described as fruitful and President Mangope said they would be ongoing.

"Genuine, lasting peace and prosperity for our region can only emerge from around the negotiating table and never as a result of uncontrolled mass action, intimidation and worse," President Mangope said.

ANC Welcomes Lifting

*MB0803122091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1205 GMT 8 Mar 91*

[Text] Johannesburg March 8 SAPA—The ANC [African National Congress] on Friday [8 Mar] welcomed the announcement by the Bophuthatswana government that it had lifted its state of emergency, that it plans to repeal the Internal Security Act, and also allow freedom of political activity.

"These are among the key demands the ANC has made as part of the process of normalisation of the political situation. We commend the announcements and measures, and expect their speedy implementation," the ANC said in a statement in reaction to the announcement.

The organisation urged the Bophuthatswana government to also release political prisoners and end detentions and harassment of political activists.

"These measures must allow our people, such as those from Braklaagte, to return to their homes without fear of assault, that their homes and lives should be secure."

The ANC further called on the Bophuthatswana government to allow the organisation operate without fear of harassment, victimisation or detention in the territory.

Rights Group Welcomes Lifting

*MB0803121191 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1157 GMT 8 Mar 91*

[Text] Johannesburg March 8 SAPA—The lifting of the state of emergency in Bophuthatswana was on Friday [8 Mar] cautiously welcomed by the Human Rights Commission [HRC], with the watchdog body saying it was but the first step in addressing the grievances of residents in the region.

The Bophuthatswana government announced on Friday morning that it had lifted emergency rule, imposed in March last year, with effect from midnight on Thursday night.

The HRC said: "Two further steps would be the scrapping on a permanent basis of the Bophuthatswana Internal Security Act, which has similar powers of

repression, and, of course, the dismantling of the charade of the homeland structure itself."

The HRC pointed out that it was calling for the scrapping of the act and the dismantling of the homeland structure so that all the inhabitants of the area could participate in the march towards a unitary, democratic South Africa.

ANC Secretary General Addresses Returnees

*MB0703190291 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1828 GMT 7 Mar 91*

[By David Greybe]

[Excerpts] Johannesburg March 7 SAPA—There were wild scenes of jubilation when the first group of African National Congress [ANC] exiles to return to South Africa met family and friends after their arrival by plane in Johannesburg on Thursday afternoon.

ANC Secretary-General Alfred Nzo, speaking to a packed reception in central Johannesburg after at least 94 returnees landed at Jan Smuts Airport, said:

"This ceremony represents an important victory for those forces inside South Africa fighting for radical change in South Africa.

"It is certainly a day of joy for our organisation and especially the families and relatives who have been expecting our people back for many long months." [passage omitted]

Mr Nzo said the ANC now had every reason to believe that the return of ANC members would be "an uninterrupted process".

This was due, he said, to the decision by the ANC Consultative Conference in December that unless the government allowed, amongst other issues, all exiles to return by April 30, the negotiation process would be in jeopardy.

The ANC has planned five more flights for returnees, at weekly intervals, for the immediate future.

ANC spokesman in Lusaka Tom Sebina told SAPA a total of 20,000 ANC returnees worldwide would come back to South Africa under the auspices of the organisation.

He added the ANC would like to see as many of them as possible returning by June when the organisation holds a national conference in South Africa.

Mr Nzo went on to issue a warning to the government, "and their police and the hated Askaris [former ANC guerrillas now working for the police]", not to victimise ANC returnees.

The arrest and detention of an ever-increasing number of ANC members had increased the ANC's scepticism

whether the government was fully committed to the democratisation of South Africa.

Because South Africa was still under apartheid rule, the ANC returnees had to prepare themselves to get involved in the anti-apartheid struggle through the various components of the ANC, Mr Nzo added.

"A high sense of discipline and commitment must guide our movement as never before," he emphasised. [passage omitted]

U.S. Rights Document Ignores ANC's Abuse

*MB0503115191 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY
in English 5 Mar 91 p 10*

[Article by Simon Barber in Washington: "U.S. Turns a Blind Eye to Alleged ANC Misdeeds"]

[Text] Does the ANC [African National Congress] continue to detain and abuse dissidents in Tanzania, Zambia, Angola and elsewhere? If it says no, does anybody care to verify its denial? Or is the matter simply too sensitive to be investigated?

The State Department's latest annual human rights compendium states, in its section on Tanzania, that "numerous, credible reports of torture and mistreatment by ANC security personnel of ANC-defector detainees at ANC refugee camps continued in 1990."

The report's Zambia chapter records: "Some former members of South African liberation groups have been subjected to harassment by the organisations which they have left. There are reliable reports that the ANC has imprisoned defectors and detainees."

The official principally responsible for Africa in the State Department's Bureau of Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, which collates the report from drafts submitted by U.S. embassies, declined to provide any further information.

The statements took Assistant Secretary of State for Africa Herman Cohen by surprise and he agreed to look into them. A short while later he asserted "my people tell me we have received no such reports" since ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela visited Tanzania last April.

The issue is not addressed at all in the compendium's section on SA [South Africa]. Allegations made by a group of former ANC detainees after their return to SA last year are not mentioned. Nor is the fact that one, Sipho Phungulwa, was subsequently murdered in Transkei.

After Cohen's remarks, an official involved in the report's preparation said if the department's SA desk had seen the references in the Zambia and Tanzania sections, it would have sought their deletion.

In a "background" interview last week, a senior administration official (who cannot be further identified under

the ground rules of the discussion) was pressed on the issue again. He gave a reply identical to Cohen's. He also brushed aside suggestions that the department might consider actively investigating the "credible" and "reliable" reports.

The only surprise in all this is that the human rights annual mentioned the abuse of ANC dissidents at all. Though there has been some sporadic interest in Congress, the U.S. Administration has never before raised the question formally.

The official excuse for this silence is that the report is supposed to focus on the human rights practices of governments. Opposition groups are only discussed insofar as they are felt to be germane to the behaviour of the state—as they might be in a case of civil war, for example.

When the human rights officer at the U.S. embassy in Pretoria drafts his chapter he deals solely with what is going on, or is alleged by human rights groups to be going on, in SA.

This also applies to Tanzanian and Zimbabwean affairs. As a result, the alleged activities of the ANC outside SA have tended to slip through the cracks.

If one accepts this explanation at face value, then the fact that the ANC's treatment of dissidents gets a mention at all this year would seem to suggest either that the department thinks the matter serious enough that normal procedures should be bent to raise it, or that someone, somewhere, in the bureaucracy finally decided that it needed flagging.

Given the testimony that those officials most closely involved with SA would have deleted the references had they had the chance, one has to go with the second hypothesis: a person or persons are trying as delicately as possible to blow the whistle.

They are wasting their time. Out of a mixture of cowardice, guilt and largely cynical reasons of state, the unspoken consensus here is that the ANC must be the beneficiary of affirmative action on all fronts, including the moral one. Whatever appalling things its members may have done, or may continue to do, the movement must be exempt from the kind of inquiry or indictment to which the government is regularly, often quite justifiably, subjected.

In Washington, the ANC even receives special treatment before the law. The Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA) requires anyone "engaging in political activities for or on behalf of foreign governments, foreign political parties and other foreign principals" to register with the Justice Department and provide public, semi-annual statements describing those activities, how they were paid for and by whom.

A wide array of SA representatives are duly registered, including the embassy's consultants, the SA Foundation, and local law firms acting on behalf of various trade

associations and other business interests. So are the Washington offices of the Angolan rebel movement UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola].

The ANC's locally headquartered U.S. mission, on the other hand, is not registered and while a number of administration officials, including counsel familiar with the Act, have privately said they can see no reason why not, the same officials have also made clear that this is a matter better left unpursued.

The Justice Department did take it up four years ago on the instructions, ironically, of the 1986 Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act. Equally ironically, the ANC's New York mission and its then representative in Washington, Madumane Matubane, were both registered at the time. The New York office agreed to limit itself to UN business, which is exempt from the FARA.

Missing is any record of Lindiwe Mabuza, who arrived in Washington in 1988 to upgrade the ANC's presence here at State Department's urging. Her office on Capitol Hill is described on its letterhead as the ANC's "Mission to the U.S." and by no stretch of the imagination can it be regarded as a branch of the ANC's UN operation.

To the contrary, Mabuza's position would seem to be exactly that of UNITA's Jardo Muekalia, and since he has to register as his organisation's U.S. representative, it is difficult to see why she shouldn't also.

Petty? Perhaps. It may also be said that the FARA is a law that lends itself to political abuse and witchhunting. Nonetheless, it is the law and one easily complied with by those who have nothing to hide.

For the administration to let the matter slide may be politically convenient. However, like ignoring the human rights question, it can only add to the organisation's evident belief it can get away with anything.

7 Mar Winnie Mandela Trial Proceedings Reported

MB0703162691 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1550 GMT 7 Mar 91

[By Neil Oelofse]

[Text] Johannesburg Mar 7 SAPA—A man allegedly abducted and beaten by Mrs Winnie Mandela and her Mandela Football Club [MFC] bodyguards on Thursday said he was later made to participate in the attempted murder of a former member of the notorious team.

Mr Kenneth Kgase told the Rand Supreme Court of the atrocities he witnessed and became party to after he and three others were allegedly abducted, beaten and held captive by Mrs Mandela and people who lived at her Diepkloof, Soweto house.

The four alleged victims, Mr Kgase, Mr Thabiso Mono, Mr Pelo Mekgwe and child-activist Stompie Seipei, were

also forced to wash their own blood off surfaces at her home, including the jacuzzi, after they were severely assaulted in a lengthy sjambok [whip] and fist attack started by Mrs Mandela on December 29, 1988.

Mr Kgase said Mrs Mandela repeatedly punched and whipped them apparently because they refused to admit involvement in homosexual relations with a white priest.

Mrs Mandela, Mrs Xoliswa Falati, her daughter Mom-pumelelo Falati and Mr John Morgan have pleaded not guilty to charges of kidnapping and assault.

Mr Kgase told on Thursday how, during the week that followed the assault, Jerry Richardson, the former MFC "coach" who was convicted and sentenced to death last year for murdering Stompie, ordered him to hold down Mr Leratodi Ikaneng while the so-called coach stabbed the man twice in the neck with the blade of a garden shear.

Another member of the MFC named Isaac had attempted but failed to stab Mr Leratodi in the stomach, Mr Kgase said.

"Jerry got angry, he told Isaac to separate the garden shears. Isaac did so. Jerry snatched one of the blades and stabbed him in the neck. He asked for the other blade, (and) said the 'dog' was not dead yet, and stabbed him again."

Mr Kgase said Mr Leratodi was left to die bleeding in a ditch but he learned later that the man had survived.

Describing what was apparently 14-year-old Stompie's last day alive, Mr Kgase told the court he last saw the youth after Richardson told him to write his name and address on a scrap of paper because he was being taken home.

Stompie was found dead in Soweto a few days later with his throat slit.

Mr Kgase said after Stompie was taken away, he, Mr Mono and Mr Mekingwe were made to sleep several nights on the floor in one of the back rooms of the Mandela home.

They were prevented from leaving and were told by Richardson they had to obey the rules of the house. One of these rules was that Mrs Mandela could not be called anything other than "Mamie".

On one occasion, they were told to don gold tracksuits inscribed with the Mandela Football Club logo, and then made to attend a funeral with other members of the "team".

On another day, they accompanied Richardson to a house in Soweto, which he said was his own, and the three were told to tidy the garden. They complied, Mr Kgase said.

During his testimony, Mr Kgase was asked more than once why he had agreed to be part of the atrocities and abuse. "I had no option... I was very, very scared," he answered on one occasion.

A week after the abduction and assault, Mr Kgase was told by Richardson to guard Mrs Mandela's house between 4AM and 6AM on the morning of January 7, 1989, with another member of the MFC.

The other guard was patrolling the front of the house and he took the opportunity to escape by jumping over a back wall.

He then managed to take a taxi to Johannesburg city centre where he was helped by Methodist Church workers.

Mrs Mandela's advocate, Mr George Bizos, on Thursday accused Mr Kgase of being a "publicity seeker".

Mr Bizos pointed to several newspaper articles published as a result of interviews given to the press by Mr Kgase, and said the story was "not much" without the implication of Mrs Mandela in the telling of it.

"I have no reason to implicate anyone, I'm her victim," Mr Kgase replied.

The hearing continues on Friday.

Medical Supplies Airlifted to Zambia

*MB0603144491 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1434 GMT 6 Mar 91*

[Text] Cape Town March 6 SAPA—South Africa on Wednesday airlifted several tons of essential medical supplies to Zambia to assist in fighting a cholera epidemic in that country.

In a statement from Cape Town, Minister of Foreign Affairs Pik Botha said the emergency consignment consisted of antibiotics, saline drips and chlorine tablets.

"The SA [South African] Government has also offered to provide medical advice to the Zambian medical authorities in their effort to counter the cholera outbreak in that country.

"(Zambian) President Kenneth Kaunda has expressed appreciation for the humanitarian gesture," said Mr Botha.

Assistance Detailed

*MB0703140491 Johannesburg International Service
in English 1115 GMT 7 Mar 91*

[From the "Africa South" program]

[Text] Cholera has claimed more than 600 lives in Zambia recently, while thousands of people have contracted the disease. The South African Department of Foreign Affairs has sent several tonnes of medical supplies to that country to assist the Zambian authorities in

combating the disease. Steyn de Preuter asked Foreign Affairs Deputy Director General for Africa, Mr. Rusty Evans, for details:

[Begin recording] [Evans] We made an approach to President Kaunda during the course of last week, and offered assistance if he felt it would be helpful. He indicated that he would be appreciative of that, and as a result we have in fact today airlifted to Lusaka several tonnes of medical supplies to help the medical authorities of Zambia to counter the outbreak of cholera in certain districts of Zambia.

[De Preuter] How serious do you see the cholera problem in Zambia at the moment?

[Evans] Well, I think that any outbreak of cholera is to be taken seriously, and we are obviously concerned about the spread of this disease. It can be countered quite effectively by taking certain measures, and our medical authorities have...[change of thought] We've been in close consultation with both our medical authorities and with the authorities in Zambia, and have tried to give them practical assistance in countering the outbreak.

[De Preuter] Does this assistance include the temporary transfer of South African medical personnel?

[Evans] No, it does not. In fact, it is merely certain medicaments.

[De Preuter] And how effective do you think assistance will be?

[Evans] That's very difficult to say. We've offered assistance, and we have given tangible material to the Zambian authorities, and I sincerely hope that, in fact, the outbreak will soon be contained and, hopefully, eradicated. [end recording]

Further Reportage on, Reaction to Census Exercise

PAC Secretary Explains Opposition

MB0703133491 Johannesburg International Service in English 1115 GMT 7 Mar 91

[From the "Africa South" program]

[Text] The PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress] has come out strongly against the population census. The PAC General Secretary, Mr. Benny Alexander:

[Begin Alexander recording] In the first place we are having an illegitimate government which acts ultra vires, or beyond its powers, in whatever it does. It therefore has no right even to count us, or to be in existence.

Second, census information is used by normal governments for purposes of planning and social economic upliftment of the people in order to know the needs of the people. Here in this country we have seen a lot of misadministration and the people have not benefited as a result of the information about their plight that was

highlighted by census information. This census may again highlight the plight of the people but nothing will be done about it, and therefore one questions the effect of the exercise.

We are not saying people should boycott it or not boycott it, we are just saying we are questioning the purpose of the exercise. [end recording]

ANC Considers 'Some Form of Action'

MB0703152291 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1458 GMT 7 Mar 91

[By Charl de Villiers]

[Text] Cape Town March 7 SAPA—A stand-off between the African National Congress [ANC] and the government over the 1991 census continued on Thursday, with the ANC sticking to its demand that the R[and]60 million survey be postponed.

Following approaches to the State President's Office, the ANC on Thursday agreed to appoint a senior representative to take up discussions with the Ministry of Home Affairs, said Mr Caspar Venter, spokesman for the state president.

This followed unsuccessful attempts by ANC Deputy President Mr Nelson Mandela and President F.W. de Klerk to contact each other telephonically to discuss the issue, said Mr Venter.

Meanwhile, ANC spokeswoman Ms Gill Marcus on Thursday confirmed ongoing discussion between the ANC and the government on the census controversy, saying: "Postponement is still on the agenda".

The ANC, she said, presumed that the government realised the census results would not be valid and would postpone it. "If this doesn't happen, however, we will have to look at some form of action," she added.

The ANC earlier charged that the census was discriminatory and relied on unscientific methods to survey 83 townships. It has demanded that the exercise be postponed until broader consultation could take place.

Ms Marcus said she did not know which ANC official had been appointed to take up talks on behalf of Mr Mandela.

Mr Venter said Mr de Klerk and Mr Mandela had tried to contact each other by telephone on Wednesday, but this was not possible because of conflicting programmes.

"Following a telephone conversation on Thursday between Dr Jannie Roux, director-general of the State President's Office, and Mr Mandela, it was agreed that the matter would be discussed with another senior ANC representative.

"The state president consequently arranged that the minister of home affairs, Mr Gene Louw, would take up the discussion with the relevant ANC official," said Mr Venter.

Mr Jack van der Merwe, spokesman for the Home Affairs Ministry, said on the Thursday the department had not yet been approached by the ANC.

Home Affairs Minister Mr Gene Louw was meeting the state president and a statement could possibly be issued later on Thursday, he said.

"In the meantime, the census is going ahead, definitely. There is no way that we will dump R60 million," he stressed.

Cosatu Voices Support for ANC

*MB0703202691 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1925 GMT 7 Mar 91*

[Text] Johannesburg March 7 SAPA—The Congress of South African Trade Unions [Cosatu] has come out in support of the African National Congress' [ANC's] rejection of Census '91 which began on Thursday.

In a statement Cosatu said it fully supported the ANC's stance on the census and backed their call for a scientific census to take place.

"If this half-baked census goes head as planned, it will be a total waste of taxpayers' money, since a new census will almost certainly have to be taken in the near future," the statement read.

An inaccurate census would undermine the process of political democracy in a new South Africa, and would make economic and social planning extremely difficult, the statement said.

It was hypocritical for the government to blame the ANC for jeopardising the census, when the government had effectively excluded millions of South Africans from the count, Cosatu added.

"It is incidents such as these which make the majority more and more convinced that programmes such as the census, which are essential for the transition to a new South Africa, can only be carried out under the supervision of an interim government."

ANC, Government Talks 8 Mar

*MB0803070591 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 8 Mar 91*

[Text] Talks between the government and the ANC [African National Congress] on the organization's criticism of the countrywide census have been held over to today after busy schedules prevented a meeting yesterday.

The minister of home affairs, Mr. Gene Louw, said he had tried to take up the matter yesterday with the ANC's representative, Mr. Alfred Nzo, but that Mr. Nzo had

been unable to meet him because of other commitments. Mr. Louw is handling the matter on behalf of President F.W. de Klerk, who was approached initially by Mr. Nelson Mandela.

The ANC objected to the fact that the test sampling method would be used in 83 areas instead of door-to-door surveys, and that the TBVC [Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei] states would be excluded from the census.

Earlier Mr. Louw said that aerial photography of areas such as squatter camps had been shown to be more accurate than door-to-door surveys.

'No Chance' of Census Postponement

*MB0803135691 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1100 GMT 8 Mar 91*

[Text] The minister of home affairs, Mr. Gene Louw, says there is no chance of the census being postponed and that this fact has been conveyed to Mr. Alfred Nzo of the ANC [African National Congress].

He said at a news conference that certain assurances had been given to Mr. Nzo and that he would be discussing the matter again with him this afternoon.

Forty-eight thousand census enumerators were working on the 60-million-rand project which had taken three years to plan.

De Klerk Discusses 'Misdeeds' of Security Forces

*MB0503061191 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2129 GMT 4 Mar 91*

[Text] Cape Town Mar 4 SAPA—Not he, the government nor the top management of the security forces would lift a finger to protect members of the security forces against the consequences of their misdeeds, the state president, Mr F.W. de Klerk, said on Monday [4 February].

Speaking at a by-election meeting at Maitland, he said one should, however, guard against painting all the security forces black, and also asked why no attention was given to innocent civilians who had been murdered in acts of terrorism.

He was replying to a question from the floor on whether he believed that the matter of hitsquads had been "sliced open to the bone" as he had promised it would be.

Mr de Klerk said Mr Justice Louis Harms, in whom he had considerable trust, had compiled his report and made certain recommendations to the government. Thereafter, any indication that anyone had broken any law had been followed up, and as far as there were facts that could form the basis of a criminal prosecution, there would be such a prosecution. "And insofar as there are facts which still have to come to light, those facts will be pursued."

People with information on the perpetrators of murders should come forward to him and their information would be treated in confidence, but he could not take steps on the basis of rumours and suspicions.

Everyone, including members of the security forces, was entitled to a fair hearing. No-one should be pilloried, prosecuted or disadvantaged on the basis of rumours or suspicions.

Where there were unsolved crimes, the government would continue to try to solve them. It had no desire to cover up anything.

Mr de Klerk said that while everyone wanted to establish whether members of the security forces had carried out murders without orders, attention should also be given to all the other innocent civilians who had been murdered.

"Why is there not just such an outcry over what happened to them? Are there political motives?"

"Two wrongs don't make a right, but if you only emphasise one wrong then you are biased."

It was wrong to focus fully on the security forces as if they were the cause of all the problems in the country. The law should not be manipulated by anyone for political reasons.

NP Scores 'Solid' Maitland By-Election Win

MB0703052391 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2122 GMT 6 Mar 91

[By Lew Elias]

[Text] Cape Town Mar 6 SAPA—The National Party [NP] candidate and minister of national education and environment affairs, Louis Pienaar, cruised home to a solid victory in the Maitland by-election in Cape Town on Wednesday [6 March].

He beat Conservative Party [CP] businessman and former NP member Theuns Kruger by polling 6,009 votes to the CP's 3,152, giving the NP a 2,857 majority from the 46.5 per cent poll.

The CP or rightwing were celebrating a major victory as the votes they polled were more than four times the almost 800 votes polled by the Herstige Nasionale [Reformed National] Party and CP combined in the 1987 general election. The CP did not contest the seat in 1989.

Analysts Assess Results

MB0703054391 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2217 GMT 6 Mar 91

[Text] Cape Town March 6 SAPA—The massive 35 per cent swing to the Conservative Party [CP] in the Maitland by-election was the second worst result for the

National Party in a by-election, after Umlazi, political analysts said on Wednesday [6 March] night.

Analysts Prof Japie Spoelstra and Mr Donald Simpson from Potchefstroom University said the size of the swing had implications for President F.W. de Klerk, but the low voter turnout threw out the accuracy of calculations.

The National Party's [NP] Mr Louis Pienaar polled 6,009, a majority of 2,857 over the CP's 3,152. There was a 46.5 percentage poll.

The size of the voter swing in Maitland was roughly midway between the swing to the CP seen in the 1990 Umlazi and Randburg by-elections.

CP supporters generally always voted in by-elections, however, and NP voters less so, Prof Spoelstra said.

The CP election machine had found more voters than the NP, a notion supported by the amount of special votes for the CP.

The CP had contested Maitland harder than any of the previous five by-elections in the current sitting of Parliament, but neither party had a really effective campaign.

The Maitland constituency was not a typical South African constituency, the analysts said.

The government would still, however, win a referendum.

About 48 percent of traditional Democratic Party [DP] voters had voted for the NP in Maitland—the lowest switch in any of the three by-elections since President F.W. de Klerk began his reform programme in earnest with the opening of Parliament on February 2 last year.

A low voter turnout made an accurate analysis difficult, Prof Spoelstra stressed.

The swing to the CP was modified by a "masked" CP vote in 1989—when the CP did not stand and the Herstige Nasionale [Reformed National] Party [HNP] polled 441 votes.

It was further modified by the stronger commitment of CP voters and their greater determination to vote in hot weather.

Most CP supporters had probably voted and CP abstentions were probably less than 10 per cent of the missing voters, who numbered up to 7,000 of the total 19,753 registered voters in the Maitland constituency.

There was an unusual pattern in Maitland, and the CP's showing in 1987 had not been in keeping with the general pattern.

Prof Spoelstra said this indicated CP voters had in 1989 voted either for the NP or DP rather than waste their votes on the HNP.

According to other South African averages in the 1987 and 1989 general elections, the CP should have scored closer to 1,000 votes in 1989.

The real swing must take this into account.

The non-voters in Wednesday's Maitland by-election were not CP, but were they NP or even DP, asked Prof Spoelstra.

The quality of the two candidates and their campaigns had to be questioned when a low turn-out occurred.

The many non-traceable voters had to be taken into account, but the CP had put in greater effort to find their supporters who may have moved since the last election but were still eligible to vote in the Maitland constituency, Prof Spoelstra said.

NP Officials Discuss Results

MB0703055291 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2135 GMT 6 Mar 91

[By political correspondent Pierre Claassen]

[Text] Cape Town Mar 6 SAPA—The National Party [NP] surpassed its own expectations in beating back a supercharged Conservative Party [CP] onslaught in the Maitland by-election by doubling its majority in a low percentage poll on Wednesday [6 March].

Although the CP could rightly claim that it had gained substantial ground its failure to exploit the most adverse circumstances the NP has faced in decades appears to confirm that the pro-reform vote is maintaining an unassailable lead since the 1989 general election.

The NP Cape leader, Dr Dawie de Villiers, said after the result was announced that to double its majority in the worst circumstances imaginable proved that the voters were firmly on the move with the NP's reform initiative.

"It shows they want to go forward," he said.

Mr Jan Hoon, MP for Kuruman and Cape leader for the CP, said to him the result was proof "at the foot of Table Mountain" that his party could win a general election or a referendum.

The result did, however, swing far further in the NP's favour than was candidly expected by either camp during the campaign and after polling stations closed.

The NP had hoped to pull only slightly ahead of its 1989 majority which had been reduced from 4,000-plus to just over 1,400 by the Democratic Party's [DP] Mrs Esther Lategan. The CP gave the NP what appeared to be a generous 2,000 majority as the official count got underway.

The result, doubling the NP majority to 2,859 in a 46.5 per cent poll, left the most optimistic Nationalists speechless with delight.

A lot of the credit was given to a large section of former DP supporters in the more affluent Milnerton polling district which had rallied to the NP's appeal for support of President F.W. de Klerk's reformist policies.

Another clear trend was a strong fall-off in blue-collar Afrikaner support in the Maitland and Brooklyn areas where the CP made clear gains.

On the whole the result has encouraged both NP and DP supporters as a fairly accurate reflection of the urban pro/anti-reform split.

In a straight contest between the CP and NP-led reformists, adding in all the aggravating factors of bad economic times, unrest and a well-exploited local squatter problem, the reformist cause appears to have provided a large and convincing enough victory to endorse President de Klerk's policies.

The constituency is almost a perfect profile of the average constituency as it covers the full spectrum of blue-collar working suburbs through middle-class to a good measure of affluent upper class suburbs.

The only distortion is that it has a slight English-speaking bias which may be considered to have favoured the NP rather than the CP.

This factor was, however, countered to some extent by the CP campaign which stressed the white/black racial aspect without underlining too much Afrikaner or "volk" [Afrikaner people] sentiment.

On the whole analysts were in immediate agreement that the result showed none of the warning signs the government experienced at the first by-election of Umlazi, but in fact indicated a trend of consolidating support for Mr de Klerk's government.

The result was: NP 6,009, CP 3,152, NP majority 2,859, spoilt papers 24, percentage poll 46.5.

ANC's Mbeki Discusses Lifting of Sanctions

MB0603061591 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0554 GMT 6 Mar 91

[Text] Johannesburg March 6 SAPA—The ANC [African National Congress] was interested in seeing economic sanctions lifted, as was the rest of the world, as soon as a conducive climate had been created, ANC director of international affairs and information, Mr Thabo Mbeki, told Afrikaner businessmen on Tuesday [5 March] night.

He told the Johannesburg Afrikaanse Sakekamer's [Chamber of Commerce] quarterly meeting that most people in South Africa, including the ANC, would like to see peaceful change in the country and the upliftment of the economy.

The ANC had called for sanctions to pressurise the government into producing the political changes presently taking place.

He said the onus was on every South African to satisfy the rest of the world that change had really taken place, and urged the private sector, government, and trade unions to cooperate to eradicate poverty, unemployment, housing shortage, and promote equitable distribution of wealth.

"We need to get together and share ideas what we do to produce a detailed economic situation. We need economic growth in our country. Something should be done about the economy.

"Without an adjustment to the economic situation, any kind of political settlement will not survive. There are many things which are wrong about the South African economy which need to be addressed.

"There is now a better understanding between the ANC and the business community about the economic development, unlike before where insults were thrown at each other," he said.

Mr Mbeki said he was dismayed by the ongoing violence.

If the government could remove all the obstacles towards negotiations—which include the return of exiles, release of political prisoners, and new security legislation—there was hope that talks about a new constitution would begin by June, leading to an all-party congress and ultimately an election of a constituent assembly, Mr Mbeki said.

IDASA—ANC's Sanctions Stand 'Untenable'

MB0503125391 Cape Town CAPE TIMES
in English 1 Mar 91 p 2

[Report by Anthony Johnson, political correspondent:
"Sanctions: ANC Slammed"]

[Text] The ANC's [African National Congress] position on sanctions is untenable, according to the executive director of the Institute for a Democratic Alternative in South Africa (IDASA), Dr. Alex Boraine.

In a frank editorial carried by the latest issue IDASA's newsletter, Dr. Boraine calls for an "urgent", end to sanctions, and criticises Mr. Nelson Mandela's stand on the issue.

Dr. Boraine writes that the ANC correctly demands reparations for those South Africans who have been severely discriminated against for so long.

At the same time, Mr. Mandela insists that sanctions cannot be lifted until there is a new constitution.

"But there is no way in which serious attention can be given to the plight of the dispossessed unless there is significant economic growth, and a new constitution is several years down the road.

"South Africa simply does not have the time to wait until then," Dr. Boraine argues. "The new South Africa must start now."

Dr. Boraine writes that the negotiation process should be accompanied by urgent attention to the economic plight of the majority of South Africans.

President F.W. de Klerk's "enlightened and courageous" decision to scrap the fundamental race laws which have bedevilled South Africa for so long has led to a shift in the international community's stance on sanctions.

"And Mr. Mandela is seen as the loser, at a time when South Africa simply cannot afford winners or losers.

"It would, of course, have been preferable if there could have been a joint statement by the State President and the leader of the ANC calling for an end to sanctions and a plea for investment.

"But the ANC's December conference made that impossible. The ANC's position on sanctions is untenable," Dr. Boraine writes.

He also stresses the importance of initiating an all-party conference as soon as possible.

Every effort should be made to persuade the PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress], Azapo [Azanian People's Organization] and the Conservative Party to change their decision not to attend the conference, Dr. Boraine said.

Buthelezi Apologizes for Members' Violent Acts

MB0703131091 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1100 GMT 7 Mar 91

[Text] The president of the Inkatha Freedom Party, Dr. Mangosuthu Buthelezi, has publicly apologized to all South Africans for violence perpetrated by members of his party.

Dr. Buthelezi was addressing hundreds of people at the annual kwaZulu prayer breakfast in Durban this morning.

He apologized for any hurt he had caused to the deputy president of the ANC [African National Congress], Mr. Nelson Mandela, and said that the move toward public repentance in South Africa was not yet comprehensive enough. He acknowledged that Inkatha members had sometimes been drawn into violent acts for which he felt responsible.

Azapo President To Address Regional Congress

MB0703101791 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1008 GMT 7 Mar 91

[Text] Pietersburg March 7 SAPA—Azanian People's Organisation [Azapo] President Pandelani Nefolovhodwe is to address the organisation's regional congress on Saturday [9 March] at Mankweng township, near Pietersburg.

The congress will focus on the education crisis, the present political situation, the analysis of the struggle towards freedom, membership drive, and a community development programme.

Azapo's Regional Publicity Secretary Khangale Makhado said on Thursday [7 March] other political organisations and the public had been invited to attend the open session.

The president will be supported by National Projects Coordinator Lybon Mabaso and former president Nkosi Molala.

About 2,500 people are expected to attend the congress which starts at 9 AM [0700 GMT]. Mankweng was regarded as one of Azapo's strongholds, Mr Makhado said.

Azapo Details Membership Figures Nationwide

*MB0403123891 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1154 GMT 4 Mar 91*

[By Mervyn Orchard]

[Text] Durban March 4 SAPA—Northern Transvaal "is Azapo [Azanian People's Organization] country", SAPA was told in Durban on Monday [4 Mar] morning.

Senior officials of Azapo were replying to a question concerning the organisation's numerical strength throughout South Africa.

"We have a paid-up membership of between 60,000 and 70,000 in the northern Transvaal. We can lay claim to Pietersburg and other areas in the far north," a spokesman said.

But support in other parts of the country was not nearly as substantial, it emerged.

In Natal, Azapo has only about 500 accredited and registered members, and "quite a few more" in the northern Cape.

The organisation's strength in other parts of South Africa was not divulged.

Azapo Calls for 21 Mar Heroes' Day Strike

*MB0403124391 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1123 GMT 4 Mar 91*

[Text] Durban March 4 SAPA—The Azanian Peoples' Organisation (Azapo) has called for a nationwide stay-away on March 21 to commemorate Heroes' Day.

Announcing the planned action at a press conference in Durban on Monday [4 Mar] morning, Azapo national president, Mr Pandelani Nefolovodhwe, said it would exclude schoolchildren and students.

A statement issued by Azapo publicity secretary, Mr Strini Moodley, called on "other members of the liberation organisation" to join in the stayaway and also to take part in a consultative conference Azapo has planned for an, as yet, unannounced date later in the year.

Mr Nefolovhodwe said only genuine liberation organisations would be invited. "Puppets", such as homeland leaders, would be excluded.

Mr Moodley said the call for the stayaway was "part of Azapo's ongoing programme of action aimed at unseating the illegal and illegitimate Nationalist Party regime and the takeover of power by black people and their drawing up of a democratic constitution through a constituent assembly".

The stayaway aimed to spread the message of peace and goodwill among blacks; to initiate, at grassroots level, the demand for a united front of the liberation organisations; and to "remember all those black soldiers who died in the struggle for liberation".

Exiles and prisoners should have the right to be unconditionally free to return to their country or to be released from prison, the statement said. It also called on all its exiles to "reject the indemnity forms that are being circulated by the regime".

Azapo still has about seven members imprisoned on Robben Island and about 100 others in other prisons including pollsmoor, Diepkloof and Pietermaritzburg, Mr Moodley said.

The statement added: "Azapo demands that Walvis Bay be handed back to its rightful owners, the Namibian people and the Namibian government. The Nationalist regime has no legal claim to Walvis Bay and must, therefore, relinquish its hold on that part of the country.

"If Azapo were to come to power, it would immediately hand Walvis Bay to the Namibian people."

The black consciousness organisation also offered condolences to the family of Chief Mahlabanzimu Maphumulo, who was recently assassinated by unknown assailants outside his home in Pietermaritzburg.

It laid the blame "for such a dastardly act at the door of the Nationalist regime, its security forces, its private armies and its puppet regimes".

Boer Party Rejects Government, ANC Negotiations

*MB0603144091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1421 GMT 6 Mar 91*

[Text] Johannesburg March 6 SAPA—The Boerestaat Party [Boer Homeland Party] on Wednesday rejected any notion of entering into negotiations with the government, the ANC [African National Congress] and the SACP [South African Communist Party].

This was said in a statement by the leader of the party, Mr Robert van Tonder, who added that should the Afrikaners sit at the negotiation table with Mr de Klerk, they would be "in a hopeless minority" and thus would be politically eliminated as a sovereign people.

He went on to warn that the Afrikaners were not going to repeat the mistakes of 1908.

At the "national convention" of 1908, 38 delegates from the four British colonies in southern Africa were sent to Durban to plan the old Union of South Africa.

"Only six Boers attended. There were no negotiations and the Boers were forced into a state framework which we are experiencing to this day."

Police Mount Roadblocks Along Bop Border

*MB0703102491 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1017 GMT 7 Mar 91*

[Text] Pretoria March 7 SAPA—The police on Thursday [7 Mar] erected several roadblocks on the border between South Africa and Bophuthatswana to prevent people from attending an illegal memorial service organised by the ANC [African National Congress] and the PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress] at the Medunsa sports fields, north of Pretoria.

SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news says the service is to commemorate 11 people who were allegedly shot and killed by the Bophuthatswana police during a march last year.

Road blocks have also been erected in a number of streets in Garankuwa and the situation is reported to be tense, although no incidents have been reported.

Special Police To Investigate Black Violence

*MB0603170091 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1600 GMT 6 Mar 91*

[Text] The police have established a special investigation team to investigate murders committed in clashes between black groups.

The police said in a statement in Pretoria that all possible investigative techniques, including aerial photography, would be used to bring those responsible to book.

The police also appealed to people with information on such murders to come forward.

Ciskei's Industrial Climate 'Improving'

*MB0503095891 Umtata Capital Radio
in English 0900 GMT 5 Mar 91*

[Text] Ciskei's industrial sector has been in crisis for the last year, but as Louise Flanagan now reports, things are improving:

[Flanagan] Ciskei has lost 35 industries since last year's March coup. About half left within weeks of the coup because of the resulting violence, but there has been a steady trickle ever since then, and more have been threatening to go in the past few weeks. Now the Chamber of Industries thinks there may be a change.

The chamber's Stewart Dorrington told me he was hopeful now that Ciskei has signed the agreement giving South Africa financial control. Dorrington says companies won't lose their industrial concessions with any reincorporation as these are guaranteed for two years. He said he hopes that Ciskei will now be able to negotiate a better deal for industries.

Another factor increasing business confidence is the resolution of the three-week long civil servant strike. The civil servants returned to work today.

SAAF Impala Aircraft Fly After Inspection

*MB0703065791 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0649 GMT 7 Mar 91*

[Text] Pretoria March 7 SAPA—The South African Air Force's (SAAF) fleet of Impala Mark-One jet training aircraft and Impala Mark-Two ground attack aircraft are flying again after having been grounded because of a suspected defect, SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] news desk reports.

An SAAF spokesman said each aircraft had been inspected and no defects had been found.

He said the boards of inquiry into two recent crashes involving Impalas had not yet completed their investigations.

122,800 Jobs Threatened by Low Gold Price

*MB0603202591 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1100 GMT 6 Mar 91*

[Text] With the gold price at present at about 940 rands per fine ounce, nearly half of South Africa's gold mines are operating at a loss. This means that about 122,800 jobs are threatened.

According to the Chamber of Mines, on average one mineworker supports about 11 dependants, which means that nearly 1.5 million people will be affected if the workers are laid off.

At present the gold mining industry provides work for about 472,000 people, which is 40,400 fewer than last year.

Gold analysts predict that the total number of job opportunities in the gold mining industry could decline to 350,000 in the next few years.

Should the 26 mines that are running at a loss at present be shut down, South Africa's total annual gold production would drop by about 140 tonnes to just under 600 tonnes a year.

8 Mar Press Review of Current Issues, Problems

MB0803111791

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

University Students' Boycott 'Foolish'—Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 8 March in a page 8 editorial says students at the University of the Witwatersrand who are planning an indefinite class boycott and other "disruptive" activities "stand to gain nothing but a backlog in their studies." "The principal grievance is that 1,000 students who failed to meet the university's minimum requirements last year were not readmitted. Objections to this sensible and normal practice smack of the foolish 'pass one, pass all' slogan which has been surfacing at high-school level." "There will be no place for unreasonable dissension."

BUSINESS DAY

ANC 'Obstructionist' To Census—The African National Congress' (ANC) late objection to Census 91 "seems to be unnecessarily obstructionist," notes a page 8 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 8 March. "There was no chance that the costly operation could or would be postponed, and it will be a pity if its value is undermined by a lack of cooperation from some people because of the ANC's stand." BUSINESS DAY believes the ANC would have served the country better "had it acted earlier, and offered its assistance to ensure the safety of officials who needed to visit squatter areas, for instance. There was no justification for turning Census 91 into a political issue."

'Militant' Right Unable To Occupy Political Center Stage—Patrick Bulger writes on the same page that the government "has abandoned the spectre of the militant right as an excuse for not pushing through further social and political reforms." Government relies on the "hopelessly fractious right" to "remain its own worst enemy." "The right suffers most of all from an unworkable and illogical political policy and an inability to push itself to the centre stage of SA politics." Furthermore, "a constitutional arrangement that puts urban interests above rural concerns may well leave the right confined to far-flung

backwaters. It may remain powerful and reactionary but unable to impose its will on national politics."

SOWETAN

By-Election Shows Many Whites Favor Change—Referring to the Maitland, Cape Town, by-election Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 8 March states in a page 8 editorial: "Despite all the changes he is bringing to the country, President De Klerk's National Party still beat the right wing Conservative Party by nearly 3,000 votes." Although this does not change anything for blacks, it is "a signal that there are still many more whites in favour of political change than there are those who are not."

THE WEEKLY MAIL

Editorial Notes UDF Disbanding—THE WEEKLY MAIL marks the disbanding of the United Democratic Front and the Detainees' Parents Support Committee with "mixed feelings." "One can only feel a great sense of relief that they feel they have achieved enough to wind down their operations, signalling the end of one of the most repressive periods of our history. We hope, however, that neither of these groups, nor the individuals who stood by them through such difficult times, feel that their work is now done." "The struggle for democracy did not end on February 2 last year; nor on February 1 of this year; nor will it end on the day we elect a majority government. The struggle for a free, open and equitable society is just beginning—and it will only be won if those who value human rights keep their swords sharpened and ready."

NEW NATION

Government Still To Determine Education Policy—The establishment of a joint ANC-government working group on education "represents some movement" but it "still falls far short of the demands that are now current in education," says the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg NEW NATION in English for 8-14 March. "The government should have come out boldly and taken the issue of education outside the ambit of the National Party, the white Parliament and, indeed, the negotiation process." "Effectively, it is still the government that will continue to determine the form and content of education policy for the majority of the people."

Angola

RSA TV Program Interviews UNITA's Savimbi

MB0703215091 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network
in English 2000 GMT 7 Mar 91

[Interview with UNITA President Dr. Jonas Savimbi by Penny Smythe at the SABC, Johannesburg, on the "Agenda" program—live]

[Text] [Smythe] Good evening, Dr. Savimbi, and we'd like to welcome you to the AGENDA studio. You have been fighting now the government forces for over 16 years, I think. Now, were the original motives for going into this war in the first place, and to what extent have they changed, if at all?

[Savimbi] First of all, we fought against Portuguese colonialism for 15 years, the three of us: the FNLA [Angola National Liberation Front]; the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola], which is now in power; and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola]. But in 1975 we signed an agreement with the Portuguese which could lead to elections. But the MPLA brought into Angola 60,000 Cubans, and then we had to resist the neocolonialism from the communist countries. Which is why we had to organize our resistance. We went into the bush, and we had to face it for 16 years.

[Smythe] So your original motives were for a free state, a multiparty state, free elections, et cetera?

[Savimbi] First of all, we wanted our country free from any foreign domination. Second, for the fact that the new colonialists, they were communists. We wanted to be free, democratic, and the people should be given a chance to choose their own destiny.

[Smythe] And that has remained the same throughout all those years?

[Savimbi] It is our objective, and we will remain firm on those objectives. Fortunately, I think, now we are close.

[Smythe] There have been several attempts at cease-fires, some of them headed by Zaire's President Mobutu Sese Seko. Why did those initiatives fail?

[Savimbi] I think it was 22 June 1989 when President Mobutu tried to bring together UNITA and the MPLA. I have to regret that it did not succeed, for the fact that the preparations were not very good.

[Smythe] How do you mean? What do you mean by that?

[Savimbi] I think that there was some background that the president should have clarified before calling the MPLA and UNITA to Gbadolite. I think he wanted to put a shock diplomacy, but shock diplomacy for a long struggle did not work. That's why today we accept the mediation of the Portuguese, but we preferred it to be an African mediation. But that one did not work.

[Smythe] You say that you accept the mediation of the Portuguese, and of course, very recently there have now been the discussions between the Soviet Union, America, and Portugal, and a cease-fire seems imminent. When do you feel that it could be signed?

[Savimbi] From our side, we are prepared to sign a cease-fire any time, but we have been working since April 1990 with the Portuguese, with the Americans and the Soviet Union, to find a common ground with the MPLA, to sign a cease-fire. But the cease-fire is linked to the date for elections. That is why, when our delegation went recently to Portugal, 6 to 8 February, we did not succeed to sign a cease-fire as we wanted, for the simple reason that the government in Luanda was not prepared to give the date for elections, or the period within which elections should be held.

On 4 and 5 of this month, March, the Portuguese and the Americans and the Soviets, they met again, and they are going to propose to us a new document, and we hope that at end of this month, March, we are going to start again intense negotiations in Portugal, because we believe that we have to stop fighting. It is my conviction that before May we may have everything in place, the cease-fire and the date for elections.

[Smythe] It has been suggested that an electoral period of some 15 months would be agreed upon, but I understand that the government is wanting longer than that. What is UNITA's stand on that?

[Savimbi] We stand for one year. We think that after the cease-fire, one year will be enough, for several reasons. First of all, we have agreed with the MPLA and the mediation that we will call on the United Nations for the supervision of the cease-fire and elections. Then the United Nations would like to know how long their men will stay in our country, and also the cost for that. Then I think if we tell them that it will be two years or three years, they will not be interested to live in Angola for so long period. Also, the cease-fire itself, if it is prolonged, it can be derailed. That is why we in UNITA, we stand for 12 months, while the government stands for 3 years.

[Smythe] Why do you feel they are resisting a shorter period?

[Savimbi] I think it is understandable, for the fact that they have been in power, one-party system, for 16 years, and they did not deliver. The government did not do any project in favor of the people at all. I think they want to try to improve their image, that is why they need three months, but I don't think that they are going to get the three months...

[Smythe, interrupting] Three years.

[Savimbi] Three years from us, not even from the mediation, because the Portuguese, the Americans, and the Russians, they want this to finish—I don't say quickly, but in a very reasonable time.

[Smythe] Do you see this as being a bit of a compromise at all on your part, or would that be a great compromise on the part of the government, to give in on three years?

[Savimbi] I think all of us will have to make a compromise because negotiations is to give and take. We, since we started negotiating with them, we have made a lot of concessions. We have recognized their head of state as a head of state of Angola during the interim period. We have also recognized their government as a government during the interim period. And also we give them time in order to solve their problems within the party because they wanted more time for their own congresses. So that, I think, UNITA has made all the concessions possible. What we are waiting for them is to make also a concession on the date or the period of elections, because three years is really excessively long.

[Smythe] You mentioned earlier on that you would have preferred to have had a cease-fire negotiated by African countries rather than by colonial powers. What do you see Portugal's role being in the future of Angola, if any at all?

[Savimbi] I think there is a great role for the Portuguese to play because you know that in Angola we speak Portuguese, our official language is Portuguese. And right now they are playing a very good role. It is true that they were a colonial power, but we have to forget about that, because they are the only ones who are now prepared to do that. It is a risk politically. [Words indistinct] to fail, we hope it will not. But, secondly, the Portuguese will be leaded [as heard] in Angola in order to restore our administration. The administration cannot be restored by other countries that do not speak the language. And our official language, in the schools, in the administration, since it is Portuguese, and I think the Portuguese are going to play a very positive and important role.

[Smythe] You mentioned a multiparty election, a multiparty state, et cetera. In your travels around Africa, you've recently been to various countries in Africa, and over your years as head of UNITA, you've done a great deal of travelling, do you see a change in thinking towards multiparty states in Africa? Particularly given the fact that the World Bank has said it is not prepared to give aid to countries who maintain a one-party system? Have you seen a big change in that thinking?

[Savimbi] Absolutely. It all started, I think, with the democratic revolution which took place in Eastern Europe. The winds have also touched Africa. It is not only because of the pressure from the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund, but for the fact that Africans themselves have realized that a one-party system does not lead, first of all, to a deep and a fruitful debate of the issues in the country. And also, it does not let the people full economical development. Too, I think it is not only because of pressure, they are feeling that the African leaders, they do realize themselves that for political sake, and their economical development they need to go to a multiparty system.

[Smythe] What about tolerance for that in Angola? Because we have seen in Africa that there hasn't been a great deal of tolerance for multiparty system, for other political points of view. How do you feel that will work in Angola?

[Savimbi] It will. It will work. I think that democracy has to be tolerant. Then you have to accept to live with

somebody who has different views. It is why I don't think that in Angola we are going to have problems, for the fact that we have, we are in two different parties. We have two different problems. And we are not saying that it will be only MPLA and UNITA to lead that country. We need also the room for other new parties to come. I think that basic for democracy is tolerance. We have to accept and live with those who think differently from us.

[Smythe] Assuming the cease-fire takes place and the elections take place within a reasonable amount of time, how, what would your standpoint be economically? What is UNITA's standpoint economically? What would you do to set about restructuring Angola, which, I mean, economically, has suffered desperately during these years of the war?

[Savimbi] I think we have said, we not only to want to go democratically within the political institutions, but we are for free enterprise. Because we have seen, not only in Angola but in the rest of Africa, that this centralized economy did not give any benefit to people at all. Because the people working for the state, they feel themselves as civil servants. But when you give the initiative to individuals I think they put a lot into their work. They have something of themselves to invest because they will take over something for themselves, for their families and they can contribute to the development of their own country. That is why we have to have a free market economy.

[Smythe] Do you think that is going to be the system throughout Africa? Because there really has been a decline economically on the continent in general. Do you feel that is going to change as well?

[Savimbi] Absolutely. I think now all the leaders in Africa, and I think we have to give [word indistinct] to some who have accepted that, because after thirty years of independence, we did not progress. I feel there was a lot of regression in our economic development. But, we feel in UNITA....

[Smythe, interrupting] Why do you feel that was? Why do you feel there was that...?

[Savimbi, continuing] I think the one-party system is responsible for all those things. Because within the party, even if the people they said there is a democracy, it is very difficult. But if democracy is made up of different parties, we'll not only argue with the party in power on political issues, but also on economical issues. Then I think it is always healthy to have somebody with different ideas. When you have a one-party system, even economically, they apply the policy of their own party. I think that is what is responsible for all the situation we are living now, which is the greatest, economically, in the whole of Africa.

[Smythe] What about relations with other African states, Mr. President, particularly, or for example Namibia, because that is very close to you? And having SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] good relations for many years with the MPLA, how do you think they will react to a new Angola?

[Savimbi] I think they will react positively, as we did, because I want to remind here [as heard] that we had very good relations with SWAPO for six years. Then, after, in 1975, when we had to leave the towns, they joined up with the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] and we do not really deplore that. They needed to remain with those in power in order to have their logistics. But, after they got their independence, we sent signals to them that we want to restore our good relationship with them because the border, the northern border of Namibia is fully controlled by UNITA.

Also, I think, I can mention, most of African independent countries, they have very good relations with us. I am coming from a long trip where I visited Cameroon, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Zaire, Nigeria which is a big country in this continent. All of them, they are looking forward to see if they can give any participation, not only to peace but stability in Angola, because Angola is potentially rich and if there is stability, it will give a contribution to the region.

[Smythe] Do you feel that there will be greater trading ties between all the countries of Southern Africa?

[Savimbi] Absolutely, our philosophy is that now because of these disappointments in the international world, we think it is very important that we have regional schemes, that we work together, we plan together and we pull our resources together. I think if we do that, first of all, we are going to be very effective in our own countries to give to our people what they need. But also I think we are going to be effective when we are going to approach international community to help with loans and technical knowhow. We think that Southern Africa is blessed for the fact that we have South Africa which has a developed economy and with the political changes which are taking place now, I think we have to look forward to forming, not maybe immediately, but in the near future, a Southern Africa, a community, economic community, because this will put all our resources together, our systems of transportation, communication, water, energy. I think this will be very much beneficial to the whole area.

[Smythe] So, you see increased trade, increased cooperation between Angola and South Africa?

[Savimbi] Absolutely, absolutely.

[Smythe] How, would you react to statements that South Africa is continuing to help Angola [as heard] financially and physically?

[Savimbi] I think there, we have to be very careful. There is a propaganda. Then, since 1988, December, when there was the accords of New York signed by South Africa, the MPLA, the Cubans—the Russians and Americans, they were observers—South Africa never entered Angola again, never given [as heard] to us any war materiel. It was the end. Also, I think I can support my argument for the fact that the thinking of President De Klerk does not go toward interventions. It is to end the conflict through dialogue. So, it will not be the man to

give me guns to continue the war [sentence as heard]. But, they have cooperative because, on humanitarian grounds, medicine, food and also we have to transit to South Africa, I think that support has been continuing.

[Smythe] So, you are saying that at the moment there are no South African people fighting on the side of UNITA in Angola and there is no financial assistance at all?

[Savimbi] It is impossible. It is not the way how the South African Government today thinks. So, then, I think we have to be thankful. We have to express our gratitude of what we have got when we were fighting the war. But, now, also we have accepted that now, the new thinking of the leadership here is more for dialogue, for settlement to discussions, then they will not give arms. We don't receive arms. We have no soldiers from South Africa in our country.

[Smythe] You did say a year or two ago to the British Conservative Party meeting in Blackpool that you used or needed South Africa for your survival against the MPLA at one stage, but that if you headed a government in Luanda, you wouldn't deal with a country which had such policies. Has that changed? Do you feel the same?

[Savimbi] I think I have said it when I addressed the young presidents [as heard] that the apartheid policy has created a lot of problems to South Africa but also to the friends of South Africa, as I was one of them. So, then, I think now that the apartheid is being dismantled, it is making a lot of good to everybody—to South Africa itself but also to me—because for long time, I was boycotted by African countries and by the black community. But, since here there are reforms going in a very good sense, and also we don't need your arms to fight in Angola, because the Americans are giving support, I think all this has helped us tremendously, because the people understood that if we got support from South Africa, even under those circumstances, it is because it was a question of life or death. It is survival. Then, when the Cubans had invaded our country, they had a lot of materiel—tanks, aircraft—and then we had to survive, we had to ask somebody to give us what we needed, the tools, so that we could do the job as Churchill has said. So, then I think today everything is different.

[Smythe] Could I ask you for some opinions on some people that you have met and dealt with? First of all, President Bush.

[Savimbi] Yes, he is a very good President.

[Smythe] In what way?

[Savimbi] I think he is a man with a lot of experience. We could say that that one was prepared to become a president, because he went through; he was ambassador, he was a vice president for eight years. I think we saw it, how he succeeded to lead the coalition in this tragic event of the Gulf. I think he is a capable President.

[Smythe] What about Mr. Shevardnadze? He's no longer...

[Savimbi, interrupting] He's no longer a foreign minister. It was a pity. I met with him in December. He is a warm person, and he understands. I hope that the next minister, also, he will not go so far away from what he was doing, because I don't think that Minister Shevardnadze was doing things that he was doing only for the West, only for the regional conflicts. He was doing those things also for his own country.

[Smythe] How would you feel about serving under the current president of Angola?

[Savimbi] I think I will not, for the fact that we have a chance now to have elections. Let him lead that government in interim basis, until we have elections. If he does win elections next year, then I will be a citizen. I will not just play politics any longer. I have been in politics for 32 years. So then, I am not saying that I will serve under him. After elections, if I lose elections, I will be a citizen. I hope that the constitution will guarantee the opposition. But even, I don't have intention of leading that opposition. A young man will lead UNITA for that opposition. But if I win—and I believe that we have all the possibilities of winning elections in Angola next year—then I will accept him, if he does want to serve the country.

[Smythe] What about President Kaunda? What's your reaction to him.

[Savimbi] I think that President Kaunda, he is a leader of Africa, and he is a neighbor of Angola. Though we have had some differences with him, we don't think that we can just drag on with those differences. We have at one stage to talk to him, and I'm happy to say that there are already contacts with him, and I think sooner or later—better soon than later—we are going to meet and then we have to discuss with him.

[Smythe] So your relationship with him at the moment is fairly good?

[Savimbi] I think I don't say that they are good, but they are coming, they are warming up. They are warming up.

[Smythe] Thank you very much, Mr. President, for coming to talk to us.

[Savimbi] Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

UN Official Visits, Meets With Dos Santos

Dos Santos on Aid Program

MB0703073191 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1920 GMT 6 Mar 91

[Text] The United Nations has launched a relief program to aid the victims of war and drought in Angola. The program was partially implemented because the Angolan Government detected a number of irregularities, and decided to temporarily suspend it.

As part of a policy aimed at resuming the assistance to the needy in Angola, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos

this afternoon received a UN envoy responsible for special political affairs. He is UN Deputy Secretary General James Jonah.

The president of the republic of Angola had this to say to Mr. James Jonah:

[Begin dos Santos recording] When we realized that the drought was a serious phenomenon, we made several appeals to the international community, asking for aid for several people affected by the calamity. We were very pleased to note that the United Nations became involved in the organization of a humanitarian relief operation for drought and war victims in Angola. We collaborated with the United Nations in the preparation of this program, and pledged that we would create conditions to successfully implement such a program.

Obviously, being aware that our country is at war, one of the issues that we raised related to security. We then requested that both the government and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] should guarantee that the convoys which would carry goods to the drought victims could travel safely. We chose the routes, the areas where the goods would enter, and the airports. We also agreed to establish a system whereby the goods entering Angola through its border with Namibia would be controlled.

It is regrettable that not everything should have gone according to what we had agreed. The convoys had to be suspended on a number of occasions. UNITA obstructed routes, damaged bridges, and conducted other sabotage operations on various occasions.

Obviously, we could not accept that the agreements reached before the aid operation should be overlooked. Thus, we decided that the aid operation could not continue under those circumstances because it posed difficulties to the United Nations, the Angolan Government, and the people at large. Our intention was neither to undo the UN effort nor to enter into a conflict with the United Nations. This must be made very clear: We are a UN member state. We have observed all our obligations and, within our capabilities, we have cooperated in every area to ensure that the UN Charter's principles are respected and safeguarded.

Nevertheless, we would never accept a situation whereby all our efforts should be harmed by UNITA's bad faith and evil intentions. It was for that reason that we raised the issue of security conditions to ensure that the correct implementation of the program. We raised the issue with the United Nations through its Luanda representative. He promised he would do everything in his power to secure UNITA's guarantee that the convoys would be able to move in relative safety. We understand the difficulties he must have had to obtain those guarantees.

We also raised the issue with the United States. As you know, before the beginning of the aid operation, we established a bilateral understanding with the U.S. Government. One of the conditions was exactly the need for

creating conditions that would ensure the aid program's safe implementation and success.

A U.S. delegation led by Mr. Davidow then came to Angola. Mr. Davidow is the assistant undersecretary of state for African Affairs in the U.S. Foreign Affairs Department [title as heard]. We discussed at length the difficulties caused by the current nonimplementation of the UN aid program for drought- and war-affected people.

We proposed that the issue of convoy security on the ground be analyzed at the upcoming round of peace talks with UNITA. In our view, there would be no point in resuming the program without effective security conditions. I must tell you that, even before a date had been set for the new round of talks, we received a letter from the U.S. undersecretary of state saying he had secured guarantees from UNITA and Mr. Jonas Savimbi and that subsequent talks must be held with the United Nations regarding the creation of conditions permitting the resumption of the aid program.

Let me tell you that we are willing to continue discussing this issue. Our principal concern continues to be the creation of conditions that will effectively allow aid to reach people in need, irrespective of where they live. However, that cannot be done unless agreements are respected and effective security exists.

Thus, I am ready and willing to listen to the UN assistant secretary general. I want to reiterate that we have good intentions. We do not want to hinder the implementation of the UN aid program in any way. This means that the functioning of our own state and government will face difficulties and our people's lives will be affected, thereby contradicting our government's policy. [sentence as heard]

Our government works for the people. Our government regards itself as the people's government and it has deeply humanist leanings. [end recording]

James Jonah said UNITA has already given him guarantees that it will contribute in the best possible manner to the successful implementation of the UN humanitarian aid program. James Jonah delivered a message from UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to the Angolan head of state. He spoke about the work being done by the United Nations regarding the resumption of the aid program for drought- and war-affected Angolan people.

[Begin Jonah recording in English fading into Portuguese translation] Sorry that I could not (?see you) [words indistinct] he has asked me to give you this message which, to a certain extent, is a summary of the report I presented to him after my initial visit. He raised a number of issues that will present difficulties for the United Nations.

First of all, I think that the UN secretary general believes he acts independently of the United States. We understand that there are those who believe the United States plays a dominant role within the United Nations. However, we

shall act independently in regard to this issue because as you know, this is a UN aid program and we do not want to link this program with [words indistinct] and, in his message, the secretary general places great emphasis on this point. He wants to pursue an independent course.

During my previous meeting with your foreign affairs and planning ministers, I made it clear that [words indistinct] this work [words indistinct] problems that have been overcome. My suggestion was that we should begin [words indistinct] we, in the United Nations, believe that we have sufficient guarantees from UNITA to continue the aid program [words indistinct] we believe we already have all those guarantees at this stage. [end recording]

Assuming that there will be eventual understanding, indications are that there will be more disclosures on this important issue soon.

[Begin dos Santos recording] What we said was that, because of a lack of proper coordination [words indistinct] military aid was reaching UNITA inside Angola from South Africa, the South African Red Cross, and other organizations under cover of the UN aid program [words indistinct] second, we have to believe you when you say that UNITA has given every guarantee concerning the safe circulation of the convoys. We were told the same at the beginning of the aid program. At the time, the planning minister warned that we would suspend the program if those agreements were not observed.

Thus, though I take pleasure in your words, (?I must say) that the Angolan Government enjoys sovereign powers to stop the program should UNITA again violate the agreements, attack the convoys, or hinder the implementation of the aid program.

Thus, I can guarantee that our government will reassess the situation in light of your information and will be getting back to you. [end recording]

Official Departs 7 Mar

MB0703222891 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese
1915 GMT 7 Mar 91

[Excerpt] Luanda 7 Mar (ANGOP)—James Jonah, UN assistant secretary general for special political affairs, regional cooperation, decolonization, and trusteeship, left for New York early this morning. [passage omitted]

MPLA To Hold Second Special Congress in Apr

MB0703222491 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese
1920 GMT 7 Mar 91

[Excerpt] Luanda, 7 Mar (ANGOP)—The MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Labor Party Central Committee will hold its Second Special Congress during the second half of April this year. This is revealed in a communique issued at the end of the second session of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee. The congress will complete the Central Committee's composition and

"deepen the party status and operation within the context of a multiparty democracy." The current Central Committee has 90 members while the Third Party Congress recommended 120 members. [passage omitted]

UNITA Commentary Wants Dos Santos Out

MB0603082591 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0510 GMT 6 Mar 91

[Commentary: "The attitude that Eduardo dos Santos must take in regard to the Angolan nation"]

[Text] Angola, our beloved fatherland, is in complete chaos. Nothing works. The so-called leaders of the puppet Luanda regime are daily displaying their incompetence and propensity for thievery, corruption, and deliberate genocide. They do not know how to do anything for the good of the Angolan people.

The Angolan people are concerned about the time factor.

The reins of power in Luanda are in the hands of politically immoral, uncivil, and unscrupulous persons. Those persons are a real danger to knowledgeable and democratic mankind.

In addition to various crimes against the Angolan people, the MPLA-PT [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party] ringleaders have acquired a reputation for having destroyed national unity and jeopardized the fraternity the Angolan people had enjoyed for many centuries.

The puppet Luanda regime sees Angola as Luanda alone. The only village of any value in the country is Olibengo, so much so that the MPLA-PT has even scandalously made Bengo a province of Angola. All this has been done merely to satisfy the tribalist desires of certain fanatic reactionaries within the MPLA-PT. Goods have been imported with oil and diamond earnings, which are found outside Luanda. Those basic or luxury goods are earmarked for people living in Luanda or in the so-called Bengo Province. This diabolical policy pursued by the MPLA-PT ringleaders ultimately aims to exacerbate regionalist feelings. Those who abusively and ostentatiously call themselves the government only view the Angolan nation as something of a lower order and worthy of disdain.

Thus, the MPLA-PT ringleaders have never seen Angola's national unity and territorial integrity as the country's supreme interests. Nothing has been (?praiseworthy) in the performance of the minority and illegal Luanda regime. Everything has been going awry. The country has been and continues to be very poorly governed. National representation has been quite devilish. The so-called ambassadors of the Luanda ringleaders have only been sources of shame to the dignity and honor of Angolans abroad.

Inside the country, what we see is a frantic race for power within the so-called People's Republic of Angola. Individuals acquire notability less on account of their good work than on account of the crimes they commit against the Angolan people.

This explains why the Himmlers of Luanda, in other words the chiefs of the RPA's [People's Republic of Angola] Gestapo, better known as Minse [Ministry of State Security], display their awesome powers in the streets and backstreets of the country. Their success stems from their massacres of defenseless and peaceful people. The time has come for our country to be rid of the likes of Kundi Paiama, Nvunda, Dino Matross, Pedale, Ze Maria, Nando, and other executioners in the pay of the Luanda regime.

We would be guilty of an incomplete analysis if we failed to touch the heart of the problem. The RPA has a chief. He is Eduardo dos Santos, the supreme ringleader, and he is doing an extremely poor job of leading the puppet Luanda government. He has a finger in every MPLA-PT pie. He knows what he is doing. He is responsible for all the deeds of the MPLA-PT, FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola], and DISA [Directorate of Intelligence and Security of Angola]. He cannot be dissociated from the crimes daily carried out by the Luanda regime's state apparatus.

Eduardo dos Santos is the one who issues the orders and, for that very reason, the full blame for the despicable governance of this country must be laid at his door and at the doors of his cronies.

Let it be said that we do not expect more from Eduardo dos Santos. He has already comprehensively failed. He has become an undesirable among the Angolan people. If he has any brains, what he must do now is withdraw from power while the going is good and history may yet remember him as someone who repented and knew when to bow out.

We hereby responsibly and strongly guarantee that UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] will be magnanimous in victory because our beloved President Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi's statesmanship has always been based on national unity and reconciliation, as well as fraternity among all Angolan people.

This guarantee extends beyond the country's current war situation. The Angolan people can and must trust the leader of the Angolan resistance. He is moved by profound feelings of Angolan nationalism and patriotism.

Angola, our beloved fatherland, cannot continue directionless. It cannot continue to be a theater of operation for international gangsterism. It cannot continue to be such a poorly governed country. This only happens because incompetent, fraudulent, corrupt, regionalist, and alien people took over power in Luanda with the backing of Cuban mercenaries and other hegemonist foreign scum.

Oh, dear fatherland of the Angolan people: You witnessed our births and you have seen us grow. You were the birthplace of our heroic ancestors. You have known how to care for your sons and daughters who have honored and continue to honor you. Listen to our prayers so that you can rise once and for all and stand redeemed and dignified!

Angolan fatherland: Your honor, dignity, love, wealth, valleys, mountains, prairies, rivers, and the ocean that bathes you will all work for the good of your sons and daughters! Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, in his capacity as first legitimate president of Angola, will guarantee that your glory and your feats are remembered.

We have seen misery for 15 years. We have experienced instability for days on end. We have witnessed humiliation month after month. We have seen thievery, anarchy, and corruption corrode the heart of the nation.

The time has come for Angola to be reborn as a new and dignified nation.

Listen, Eduardo dos Santos: Just leave! We have had enough of your rotten governance!

Angolan people, UNITA militants: Our time has come. We must all work hand in hand to erect the sacred building of the fatherland upon the foundations of freedom, democracy, social and economic progress, and national reconciliation.

Only UNITA can bring justice to Angola.

There can only be a good government with Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi as the first legitimate president of Angola.

Let all Angolan people vote for UNITA!

UNITA can save the Angolan fatherland!

Long live our beloved President Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi!

Foreign Minister on UNITA 'Undermining' Peace

*MB0503063391 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 2200 GMT 4 Mar 91*

[Text] Addressing a meeting of the Human Rights Commission in Geneva, Angolan Foreign Minister Pedro de Castro van Dunem accused the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] opposition gang of undermining the peace process by resorting to sabotage and not agreeing to the Angolan Government's peace proposals.

Foreign Minister van Dunem told the Human Rights Commission about [words indistinct] international humanitarian aid for drought-stricken people in our country. He said that the Angolan Government had been forced to suspend the humanitarian aid program because UNITA had extensively damaged the roads that were to be used for the aid operation.

Replying to accusations made by certain countries that Luanda is responsible for the unfortunate situation of drought-stricken people, Foreign Minister Pedro de Castro van Dunem reaffirmed his government's decision to allow the humanitarian aid program to resume as soon as it has received guarantees from UNITA that, contrary to what has happened in the past, it will not damage the roads selected for that aid operation.

Foreign Minister To Pay FRG Visit 5 Mar

*MB0503062891 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 4 Mar 91*

[Text] Angolan Foreign Minister Pedro de Castro van Dunem is expected in Bonn tomorrow for an official seven-day visit to Germany at the invitation of Hans-Dietrich Genscher, his German counterpart, with whom he will discuss the Angolan peace process, bilateral cooperation, and the international situation in general and that of southern Africa in particular. This has been revealed by a press release issued by the Foreign Affairs Ministry.

Meets Officials in Bonn

*MB0803072191 Luanda Domestic Service
in Portuguese 0600 GMT 8 Mar 91*

[Text] Angolan Foreign Affairs Minister Pedro de Castro van Dunem held an informal meeting with the chairman of the German Agrarian Action Organization in Bonn yesterday.

During the meeting, the Angolan foreign minister discussed issues linked to financing and developing Angolan projects financed by that German organization.

Minister Pedro de Castro van Dunem, who arrived in the FRG on Tuesday [5 Mar], was also received by the chairman of the German Economic Cooperation Commission yesterday.

Portugal To Grant \$10 Million Revolving Credit

*MB0803055091 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese
1915 GMT 8 Mar 91*

[Text] Luanda, 7 Mar (ANGOP)—"JORNAL DE ANGOLA" reported today that Portugal is shortly to grant Angola a revolving [preceding word in English] credit (renewable credit) of \$10 million for Cabinda Province. This loan can increase to \$50 million per year and is part of a decentralization program that will soon be extended to the coastal regions of Benguela, Lobito, and Namibe.

"JORNAL DE ANGOLA" also reports that the National Bank of Angola, BNA, and the Bank of Portugal have signed an accord to revamp Angola's banking system. The accord also provides for professional training scholarships, technical assistance, consultations, and exchange of information.

MPLA Military Unit Mutinies in Uige Province

MB0703221491 (Clandestine) KUP in English to Southern and Central Africa 1915 GMT 7 Mar 91

[Text] Jamba, Thurs., March, 07—An MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] unit stationed in the northern Angolan province of Uige has mutined.

Reports from the area say the 47th Tactical Group which is stationed in the town of Sanza Pombo and commanded by Major Dias Perigo, has been on revolt for the past one week. The troops are demanding regular food supplies saying that they have been operating for months without receiving any food from the Luanda government. They have instead been relying on food looted from the civilian population.

Efforts by the MPLA General Chief of Military Staff in Luanda to persuade the troops to stop their mutiny have so far borne no fruit.

The soldiers have been involved in several clashes over the past few days with troops loyal to the MPLA regime who have been trying to put down the revolt, according to the reports.

Newsman Criticize Government for Lack of Openness

MB0703064591 Luanda ANGOP in French 1935 GMT 6 Mar 91

[Text] Luanda, 6 Mar (ANGOP)—Angolan journalists and foreign correspondents criticized in Luanda on Tuesday [5 Mar] the lack of openness of Angolan officials in certain state organs, saying they have refused time and again to speak to the press.

At a meeting with Deputy Information Minister Joao Bernardo Miranda, the newsmen suggested that each state organ should appoint a spokesman to keep the media informed, should the need arise.

During the same meeting, National Information Director Jose Luis de Matos announced that the President's Office will establish a liaison with the Information Bureau to keep the media informed about events.

Deputy Information Minister Joao Miranda expressed support for the journalists' request and said his ministry has called on Angolan officials to be more open to the press.

Refugees Return to UNITA-Controlled Areas

MB0603211591 (Clandestine) KUP in English to Southern and Central Africa 1900 GMT 6 Mar 91

[Text] Jamba, Wed March 6—Hundreds of Angolan refugees who fled into the neighboring Republic of Zaire from the northern Province of Uige are reported to be arriving back to their home areas of Kuango, Sakandika, Ikota, Alto Zaza, Kimbele and Mbeua, now under UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] control.

Sources say that the refugees crossed into the neighbouring country to escape MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] troops' constant pillage, mining and booby traps that left dozens of the population of that area mutilated.

With most of that area now under full UNITA control, the Angolan refugees are gradually returning to occupy their land where they are reviving their coffee plantations besides growing their staple cassava crop, beans and groundnuts. UNITA forces, now established since 1986 enjoy the support of the local people and have set-up clinics to solve health problems among them.

Botswana

Government Welcomes Liberation of Kuwait

MB0403211591 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1910 GMT 4 Mar 91

[Text] The Government of Botswana says it welcomes the liberation of Kuwait, and shares in the happiness of its people as they celebrate the restoration of their country's sovereignty and freedom.

A news release from the Department of External Affairs says the country welcomes the outcome of the meeting between the military commanders of the Allied and Iraqi forces aimed at establishing the modalities for a permanent cease-fire, so that the task of building a durable peace in the Gulf could begin in earnest.

The government also urges all parties in the Gulf conflict, and the international community as a whole, to renew their efforts to address the broader problems of the Middle East, in particular the Palestinian problem.

The government says further that a comprehensive process of reconciliation among the countries and peoples of the Middle East must begin if that vital area of the world is to be rid of the cycle of violence that has wreaked so much destruction and inflicted so much pain and sorrow on its peoples over the years.

Lesotho

King Letsie III Addresses University Council

MB2802140091 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 28 Feb 91

[Text] His Majesty King Letsie III says it is the responsibility of the university to make a significant contribution to national development of the country.

Addressing the Fifth Council of the National University of Lesotho today for the first time in his capacity as the chancellor and the president of the council, His Majesty said the university must engage itself in a continual search for the real problems frustrating the advancements of the country's national development plans.

His Majesty said it should aim to place more emphasis on applied research directed toward issues that affect ordinary men and women in the villages and towns.

His Majesty said it has a tremendous responsibility to provide the kind of academic and philosophical leadership which reflects the broad aspirations of the people and their development objectives and strategies both in the immediate term and in the long run.

He added that close communication between government and the university is essential, because the effectiveness of the university's contribution to development policies depends on the ability of both government and faculty to discuss, evaluate, reexamine, criticize and investigate ideas freely.

It is expected that the two-day meeting which ends tomorrow will discuss, among others, the four five-year development plan on the university; for example, the proposed Faculty of Agriculture in the university. [sentence as heard]

Madagascar

Cuban Envoy on Reasons for Closing Embassy

EA2802211491 Antananarivo Domestic Service
in Malagasy 1600 GMT 28 Feb 91

[Text] Mr. Antoine Zafera Rabesa, the minister of scientific research and technological development, received today at his office in Tsimbazaza Mr. Luis Reyes Mas, the Cuban ambassador, who explained during this farewell visit that the Cuban Government had decided to close its embassy in Madagascar for economic reasons. Mr. Luis Reyes Mas added that this did not, however, mean that cooperation between Madagascar and Cuba would cease. The Cuban ambassador then said that a Cuban delegation representing the Cuban National Sugar Cane Research Agency would arrive in Madagascar to examine with the [word indistinct] the issue of [words indistinct] and also [words indistinct] of tobacco.

The two officials also reviewed the international situation, particularly the Persian Gulf.

Mozambique

Commission Chief on Zimbabwean Troops' Violation

MB0703191091 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1730 GMT 7 Mar 91

[Text] Ambassadors from member countries of the Joint Commission established to monitor a Rome agreement signed between the Mozambican Government and Renamo visited Chimoio city [Manica Province] today. This was reported by Radio Mozambique in Chimoio.

Manfredo di Camerana, Italian ambassador to Mozambique and head of the commission to monitor the Rome agreement confining Zimbabwean troops along the Beira

and Limpopo corridors, once again pointed out in Chimoio this afternoon that the presence of Zimbabwean troops at Chimoio Airport is a violation of the Rome agreement. Manfredo di Camerana was speaking this afternoon after meeting the Zimbabwean troops' command stationed along the Beira Corridor this morning.

The Italian ambassador left for Chimoio accompanied by other ambassadors from members countries of the commission to monitor the Rome agreement signed between the Mozambican Government and Renamo last December.

[Begin recording] [Di Camerana] It was a very positive visit [words indistinct] in Rome, exactly defined the Beira Corridor, and broadening the corridor, if possible, because the agreement is aimed at resolving the problem of all the Mozambican people—those along the corridor and outside the corridor. Accordingly, the validity of the decision adopted by the commission [words indistinct] is confirmed and we shall see whether it is possible to broaden [words indistinct].

[Reporter] As for the meeting with the Zimbabwean troops' command, is the commission aware whether or not they continue at Chimoio airport?

[Di Camerana] [Words indistinct] in principle, the presence of Zimbabwean troops at the airport is a violation of the agreement because the airport is outside the corridor. However, taking into account the logistic importance of the [words indistinct] at the airport, [words indistinct] resolve the problem in a way that would satisfy everyone, particularly Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] because this is a [word indistinct] of the agreement. Renamo would have to decide whether it is possible to consider the airport as an integral part of the agreement. This is a problem that [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Renamo Attacked for Violating Partial Rome Accord

Asked To Abandon 'Belligerent' Words

MB0703111191 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 7 Mar 91

[Text] [Words indistinct] (?the Mozambican Government) is working for the holding of multiparty elections in the country in a climate of peace.

Transport and Communications Minister Armando Emilio Guebuza called on Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] to abandon belligerent words and move closer to the people.

Speaking to DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE newspaper, Minister Guebuza criticized Renamo for failing to observe the partial Rome Accord.

Accused of Sowing Death

*MB0703131691 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 7 Mar 91*

[Text] Interior Minister Manuel Antonio has accused Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] of continuing to sow death in Mozambique.

Speaking during a working visit to Manica Province, Interior Minister Antonio said that Renamo has been unable to speak its political mind during the various rounds of peace talks that have already been held in Rome.

The Mozambican official said that Renamo only wants to extend the Mozambican people's suffering by murdering defenseless civilians and destroying social and economic infrastructure.

Interior Minister Manuel Antonio said this during a meeting with Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] Party members and militants in Manica town during a visit to learn about the functioning of party organs in the wake of the multiparty system's introduction in the country.

Soviet Military Delegation Holds Talks

*MB0303171091 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 3 Mar 91*

[Text] A Soviet military delegation is holding talks with senior officials of the Mozambican Army on ways of increasing military cooperation between both countries.

The Soviet delegation headed by Lieutenant General Vladimir (Nikichova), was received on its arrival by Mozambican General (Joaquim Massinguisse)

No further details were disclosed.

Portuguese Foreign Affairs Official Visits

*MB0503163691 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 5 Mar 91*

[Text] Dr. Joao Paris, director general for cooperation in the Portuguese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, arrived in Maputo yesterday on a working visit to our country. In Maputo, Joao Paris will attend the opening ceremonies of the fourth Portuguese book fair on Friday [8 March]. He will also hold talks with officials in the Cooperation Ministry.

Speaking on arrival, Paris said relations between Mozambique and Portugal are genuinely good and are being developed in various sectors, including health, education, and culture.

Japan Signs Assistance Agreement 7 Mar

*MB0703225091 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1730 GMT 8 Mar 91*

[Text] Mozambique and Japan today agreed to update the list of products that can be acquired by our country

within the framework of Japanese assistance. The agreement signed by Cooperation Minister Jacinto Veloso and Japanese Ambassador Mitsuo Iijima broadens the list of products that can be imported from Japan in view of the new needs resulting from the structural readjustment program. Japanese assistance to Mozambique is calculated at 4 billion yen.

Ministers' Council Discusses Train Accident

*MB0503190191 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1730 GMT 5 Mar 91*

[Text] The Council of Ministers has evaluated a Transportations and Communications Ministry report on the train accident which occurred in Nacala on 3 March. The Council of Ministers regarded as adequate the measures that have been taken by the relevant authorities, and instructed the Transportation and Communications Ministry as well as the Nampula Provincial Government to continue with their investigations to determine the causes of the accident, and to provide urgent assistance to the victims and relatives. In its third session held today, the Council of Ministers expressed its grief about the tragic occurrence, and conveyed its condolences to the bereaved families.

The Council of Ministers also evaluated and approved the decree listing the responsibilities of the National Book and Record Institute, INLD, and establishing the latter's statutes.

The session also evaluated and approved the decree repealing Decree No. 39 of 30 December 1976 which stated that the sale or donation of multipurpose vehicles, like Jeeps and heavy vehicles, had to be approved by the Transportations and Communications Ministry.

Renamo Leader Discusses Efforts for Peace

*MB0603111291 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
Mar 91 p 12*

[Report by Ken Vernon on interview with Afonso Dhlakama, leader of the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo), in Nairobi; date not given: "Mutual Distrust Barricades the Road to Peace"]

[Text] It is really a matter of distrust. Afonso Dhlakama, the portly, almost cherubic-looking leader of the Renamo rebel movement, just does not trust President Joaquim Chissano when he says he wants to convert Mozambique from the one-party vanguard Marxist state he helped to create into a free-enterprise-oriented multiparty democracy.

"He lies," Mr. Dhlakama says simply.

Almost in the same breath Mr. Dhlakama says he realises both that the war must end and that it must end through an agreement negotiated between the parties led by himself and Mr. Chissano—but probably not this year.

In the past six months the two organisations have been negotiating in Rome under the auspices of the Catholic

Church to explore ways of ending the civil war that has dragged on for almost 15 years, killing almost a million people and destroying the Mozambican economy.

The fifth and latest round of talks broke up amid mutual accusations of bad faith—leading Renamo to resume their attacks on troops confined to the Beira and Limpopo transport corridors.

Yet both sides say they intend to return to Rome and continue to talk—because both know there is simply no alternative.

"The only good thing to come out of the Rome meetings is that we have met—face to face—and will continue to meet until agreement is reached," says Mr. Dhlakama, "but I see no possibility that that can happen this year.

"There are so many problems—political problems—to be resolved, but the biggest problem is that the Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] government is not really serious about either negotiations or about implementing a multiparty democracy."

Responding to the remark that his interpretation is diametrically opposite to what the government is saying about its new constitution, his answer again boils down to distrust.

"No, this new constitution is not a constitution of the Mozambican people; it is a constitution designed by Frelimo to show to the outside world so that it may continue to get money.

"Just go to the country where people are still forced to live in communal villages like prisoners, with no freedom, and you will see that Frelimo is not serious about democracy."

Mr. Dhlakama shrugs off the formation of opposition political parties in Maputo, and government plans to hold an election this year as more propaganda.

"It is impossible to hold elections this year. Firstly, there is no electoral law; the war continues and neither Chissano nor I nor anyone knows how many Mozambicans there are.

"Any election will be a farce, an election in Maputo and Beira only. As for these 'parties'—such as Pedelimo [Mozambique Democratic Liberation Party] and Unamo [Mozambique National Union]—they are creations of Snasp (the Mozambican secret police) designed as window dressing by Chissano to make him look good."

What then are the major differences between Renamo and Frelimo under the new constitution?

"They are many, very many. Firstly, the law defining how political parties can be created is very vague. Secondly, under the constitution, the president has far too great a power. For example he can declare a state of emergency any time he wishes and for as long as he wishes. That is not democracy.

"Thirdly, only the president can approve the budget and only he can decide what is spent where—wherever and however he likes.

"Fourthly, the constitution says all land and water belongs to the State—that is free-enterprise?

"There are many other problems, such as the role of the army, which under Frelimo is a party army, and many, many others."

But isn't it possible to have a ceasefire while these political problems are sorted out? After all, people are dying.

The answer again is distrust.

"No. Renamo cannot accept a ceasefire until the political problems have been solved because the government will use the ceasefire to rebuild to fight Renamo. It is not possible to trust Marxists; they could drag talks on for years and years—that is not what we want.

"Also, if the political problems are not resolved, and Frelimo remain in charge, they can say at any time that Renamo people are against the constitution and simply throw them in jail. No, it is not possible to accept this.

"At the same time it is not that we want the killing to continue. We have been in the bush for 14 years fighting Frelimo, and it has not been easy. All that time we wanted negotiations, but Frelimo just called us 'bandits.'

"A ceasefire is easy; I must just give the order," he says, dismissing suggestions that he does not control all those killing under the Renamo banner. "But we need guarantees from the government, and the war can't end until the political problems are resolved or the 14 years we have spent may have been wasted."

What then is the Renamo plan, if any, to end the war?

"Firstly, there must be agreement on the political problems. Secondly, we must discuss the details of the transition period. Thirdly comes the ceasefire, and lastly we demand the presence of an independent organisation to supervise the country while we have elections."

Mr. Dhlakama says he envisages a body, such as the UN ("but not only the UN—they are biased toward Frelimo"), would actually run Mozambique while the various political parties campaigned—on the same basis as happened in Namibia.

He recognises this demand would be hard for any sovereign government to accept—but he does not accept Frelimo's sovereignty, adding that the condition would not be difficult "if Chissano is serious about peace."

Namibia

President Nujoma Returns From Cuban Visit 7 Mar

*MB0703200491 Windhoek Domestic Service in English
1900 GMT 7 Mar 91*

[Text] Twenty Cuban medical practitioners accompanied President Sam Nujoma, who arrived in Windhoek this morning from a week-long state visit to Cuba.

The practitioners, who include pharmacists, occupational therapists, a radiographer, and medical doctors are part of an agreement of cooperation in health and social services signed in Havana yesterday.

The minister of health and social services, Dr. Nicky Iyambo, and the Cuban vice president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation [title as heard], Noemi Benitez [word indistinct], signed the agreement on behalf of the two governments.

Dr. Iyambo said the practitioners will only receive allowances, transport, and accommodation facilities from the Namibian Government, and not salaries.

He said the specialists will be deployed in Windhoek and in the north, where there is a shortage of specialists.

DTA Leader Criticizes State's 'Spending Spree'

*MB0503094491 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0921 GMT 5 Mar 91*

[Text] Windhoek March 5 SAPA—The chairman of the opposition Democratic Turnhalle Alliance [DTA] in Namibia, Mr Dirk Mudge, has sharply criticised the 1990/91 additional budget presented in the National Assembly in Windhoek last week.

The budget made provision for an additional appropriation of R[and]164.7 million for the current financial year.

"It is clear that the government is on a spending spree and in the process of squandering the country's money, their priorities are completely wrong, and they, the honourable ministers have completely missed the target," he said during the second reading debate on Monday [4 March].

Mr Mudge said the government had failed "dismally" to reactivate the economy, reduce income disparities and restrain and redirect public expenditure priorities mentioned in the main budget last July.

"But one objective the government did achieve and that is to redirect public expenditure—away from the people and the economy to the government," the DTA leader said referring to the image created by luxury vehicles for government officials and frequent overseas trips.

"Even the colonial rulers did not allow themselves the luxuries enjoyed by our government," Mr Mudge said.

"This republic is an infant republic, with limited means and resources and we cannot live above our means.

"How can we expect people to accept our advice and work hard and save if the government is not setting an example," he asked.

In the additional budget, revised estimated expenditure for the 1990/91 financial year had risen to R2.7 billion, an increase of 12 per cent on the '91 administrator-general's budget.

Mr Mudge said only R1.9 billion was shown as own income during the year under discussion.

If it were not for balances carried over from previous years, which were much higher than expected, the country would have a deficit of R500 million which amounts to two-thirds of the national debt.

"Under present economic circumstances, I can hardly see how our income for the next year will increase unless the government adjusts its priorities and starts activating the economy instead of activating a top heavy government," Mr Mudge said.

The only short term solution was to save and to carry forward the inherited surplus.

Mr Mudge said one should not only think in terms of foreign investment as a prerequisite for economic growth.

"First of all, we must encourage our citizens, individuals, companies and financial institutions to invest in Namibia.

"We must not force them, we cannot force them, that would be fatal," he said.

Zambia

Kaunda Confident of Landslide Victory in Elections

*MB0603210091 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 6 Mar 91*

[Text] President Kaunda today reaffirmed that the ruling party, UNIP [United National Independence Party], will get all the 150 seats in Parliament during this year's general elections because of its humanist stand and the importance it attaches to man.

Addressing a UNIP rally outside Chama district's council, the district in which the one party participatory democracy was born, the president called on all those who had defected from UNIP to go back, saying there was still room for them in the party.

Reiterating UNIP policy, which is based on love and [words indistinct] unity, Comrade Kaunda scoffed at criticism that UNIP had curtailed the freedom of speech, and that it had become a dictatorship. He said Zambia

boasts of not having a single refugee abroad, nor single persons who had fled the country because Zambia is democratic and peaceful.

UNIP Party Secretary Supports Palestinians

*MB0603171091 Dakar PANA in English 1524 GMT
6 Mar 91*

[Text] Lusaka, 6 March (ZANA/PANA)—Zambia's ruling United National Independence Party Secretary General Grey Zulu on Wednesday in Lusaka pledged the country's continued support to the Palestinian people until they attain their homeland.

He was speaking when the new PLO ambassador to Zambia, Abdul Rahim Qadan, called on him in the Zambian capital.

Zulu said that although some countries had not yet recognized the State of Palestine because it does not appear on the world map, the desire for independence of the Palestinian people could not be stopped by even the big powers.

He described the relationship between Zambia and Palestine as warm and would continue to be that way until victory was achieved.

In reply, Abdul Qadan said that the PLO appreciated the support given by the Zambian people and government to the Palestinian cause.

Norwegian Agency Donates Aid for Debt Repayment

*MB0503123691 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1207 GMT 5 Mar 91*

[Text] Lusaka March 5 SAPA—The United States has granted Zambia USD [U.S. dollar]19-million as aid towards the payment of a portion of about one billion dollars in debt arrears to the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF).

And the Norwegian Agency for International Development has granted Zambia 5.8-million dollars also towards debt repayment.

Zambian Finance Minister Mr Gibson Chigaga and the U.S. ambassador to Zambia, Dr Gordon Streeb, signed the aid agreement in Lusaka on Monday [4 March].

Both parties said the grant would go a long way in easing Zambia's economic problems.

Mr Chigaga said his government's main objectives were the reduction of inflation and the improvement of the economy's external competitiveness.

An economic stabilization and adjustment programme was underway to contain inflation, now at 150 per cent a year.

Zambia has agreed with multinational financial institutions for the need to fulfil debt payment obligations beginning at the end of march.

Dr Streeb said his government would transfer the U.S. grant to the World Bank directly as "a sign of my government's continuing desire to support the Zambian Government and its people in its restructuring of the economy".

Zambia has applied austerity measures, which have often led to riots and demonstrations.

In 1987, President Kenneth Kaunda rejected the IMF's economic prescription, describing it as anti-Zambian because it denied the governing UNIP [United National Independence Party] party leeway.

IMF Managing Director Mr Michael Camdessus last month said he would persuade donor countries to give Zambia more aid.

But he said the loans would only be granted on condition Zambia reduced or paid up all the 1.3 billion [currency not specified] owing to the IMF and the World Bank.

Norway's grant will also help reduce arrears with international financial institutions.

Zambia, with a population of about 8.5 million people, has a debt of eight billion U.S. dollars and a projected growth rate of one per cent this year.

Switzerland Agrees To Reschedule Debt Again

*MB0503171091 Dakar PANA in English 1625 GMT
5 Mar 91*

[Text] Lusaka, 5 March (ZANA/PANA)—Zambia and Switzerland Tuesday in Lusaka signed an agreement to reschedule a Zambian debt of about 10 million U.S. dollars.

Zambia Finance Minister Gibson Chigaga, who signed the agreement with a Swiss official, Rolf Gerber, described the rescheduling of the debt as a timely contribution to the economic restructuring process in Zambia.

He said that the rescheduling testified to the Swiss Government's understanding of Zambia's economic problems, adding that this was particularly so because Switzerland has on three other occasions agreed to defer repayment by Zambia of outstanding debts.

Gerber, however, said he hoped this would be the last time Zambia would seek debt rescheduling. He added that in future his country would give financial aid in grants and not loans.

Benin

Prime Minister Promises Security for Voting

AB0703221591 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 7 Mar 91

["Message to the nation" by Nicephore Soglo, Beninese prime minister and minister of defense, place, date not given—recorded]

[Text] Beninese people, dear compatriots, the situation is disturbing. I am not speaking as a candidate but in my capacity as the head of the transitional government and as minister of defense, which I will be until 31 March 1991. For, despite the election campaign, the life of the nation continues.

Regrettable incidents have occurred, which we have all deplored, and with us, the whole world, which has its eyes fixed on our democratic experiment. We hope and wish that they will not occur again. The maneuver is clear: no one doubts it. Beninese people, dear compatriots, guard against falling into such a despicable trap. Remain calm and serene. You have already given enough proof of your ability in this regard, because you have sufficiently demonstrated to the world your political maturity in the past electoral process. I am convinced that once more, you will sharply disprove those who continue to consider you candidates for servitude.

Beninese people, dear compatriots: Here you are in the face of your destiny. It is up to you to follow it. March resolutely, with your head high. Not too long ago, you remember, you had your back bent, you were down on your knees, and gripped by fear. You have [words indistinct]. Rise up! Do not allow anyone to bring you back to your knees again. Shake off this artificial atmosphere of fear that they are trying to sustain around you. All necessary and appropriate measures have been taken for your protection and the security of our country. On Sunday, come out in your numbers, come out. Go and vote for the candidate of your choice, freely, in keeping with your soul and conscience. That is the price of your freedom. Be not afraid.

Long live the democratic renewal! Long live the reconstituted and united Benin of solidarity!

Minister Reveals Plan To Sabotage Elections

AB0703123391 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 5 Mar 91

[Statement by Beninese Interior Minister Florentin Feliho for national radio on 5 March in Cotonou—live or recorded]

[Text] Fellow Beninese: For some days now, according to well-founded information from various sources, it has been said that serious incidents are being prepared in our country. These incidents are said to be scheduled to occur toward the end of the election campaign, which will be

used as a pretext to abort the elections process. Assassination plots against certain civilian, military, and religious personalities are currently envisaged. These serious incidents are aimed at creating panic among people in the towns and villages. It is aimed at creating an atmosphere of fear and tension likely to prevent the smooth organization of the 10 March presidential elections and thus put a stop to the democratic process undertaken since the conference of the active forces of the nation.

The Beninese nation, which endured a totalitarian regime of disorder, corruption, and torture for 17 years, cannot under any circumstances accept such a compromise. If it ever allows that, it will be tantamount to opening the way for the very sad memories of the past to return. If such a blow is struck against our democratic renewal, it will surely be a fatal one and the Beninese people would never get over it. The disappointment of our fellow African brothers, who have been watching and observing us for the past 12 months, will be so great if our experiment should fail because of divisions among the Beninese political class.

Dear countrymen, I urgently appeal to you to remain calm and never give in to any provocations, whatever their source. Be confident! All our security and defense forces have been deployed all around the country to cope with any eventualities. They are there to safeguard peace and democracy and to protect us. The Beninese people will never agree to be driven to their knees and, if need be, will pay the prize for freedom. Long Live Democracy! Long Live Benin!

More on Speech, Assassination Plots

AB0703211791 London BBC World Service
in English 1709 GMT 6 Mar 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] With presidential elections in Benin only a few days away, there has been a dramatic rise in the political temperature. In recent multiparty elections, the coalition backing Prime Minister Nicephore Soglo emerged as the dominant force. However, the results were contested by other parties as being fraudulent and some in the north of the country were annulled. Although President Mathieu Kerekou has taken the back seat in the course of the transformation of the country from one-party state to multiparty democracy, he surprised everyone by saying that he would be contending the presidential elections on Sunday [10 March]. There had been violent clashes between supporters of Kerekou and Soglo, and now the government says it has uncovered a plot to assassinate major political figures. From Cotonou, Karim Okanla telexed this report.

[Begin announcer recording] News of the planned political assassinations was given last night when Interior Minister Florentin Feliho read a government statement on national television. The minister did not give any names, but he was obviously referring to President Kerekou's henchmen as being the main masterminds behind the plot.

The interior minister looked extremely tense and upset when reading his statement. He said that the government now had evidence of a secret blueprint to assassinate a number of civilians and military and religious personalities on the eve of next Sunday's elections. The minister disclosed that the masterminds behind the assassination had created a scenario to bring the current democratic process to an abrupt halt.

First, the minister explained they planned to create disturbances in many parts of the country. Secondly, they would commit acts of provocation and if the intended targets reacted in a violent manner they would immediately be killed. Many people here believe that the prime targets are Prime Minister Nicéphore Soglo and Monsignor Isidore de Souza, the president of the High Council of the Republic.

Even though the interior minister did not mention any names, it was obvious that he was referring to President Kérékou and his supporters as the man behind the secret plot. The minister said that troops are being deployed nationwide and that additional security measures are being taken.

Benin's new Constitution gives the authorities the right to call on foreign military assistance should things get out of hand. France and the United States might provide such military assistance.

Meanwhile, the association of Benin journalists held an emergency meeting today in Cotonou and issued a strongly worded communique. The association harshly criticized those intent on creating havoc on election day and the journalists announced that they would stop work immediately if there is a military coup. [end recording]

Accusations Protested

AB0803115291 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 7 Mar 91

[Text] Following the televised broadcast by the Internal Affairs Minister on the serious events that are taking place in the country, the national committee of support for Kérékou's candidacy, issued this communique yesterday: [Begin announcer recording] In a communique issued yesterday, the national Kérékou support committee called on the authorities to substantiate their accusations before 10 March with concrete and objective proof of their claims for the benefit of the international and national community. The national committee hereby assures all citizens of the following.

First, Mr. Mathieu Kérékou remains attached to all his commitments and pledges solemnly made on 28 February 1990 in line with setting the conditions essential to the holding of Beninese elections.

Second, Mr. Kérékou remains profoundly attached to the preservation of peace, unity, and national cohesion, essential conditions for the pursuit and triumph of the democratic renewal in our country.

Third, Mathieu Kérékou, advocates the respect of the rules of the democratic process and publicly calls on all fellow citizens to refrain from responding to all acts of provocation and violence, before, during, and after the 10 March polls.

The national Kérékou support committee, hereby, launches this vibrant and patriotic appeal to all Beninese of all parties, to show maturity, clear-sightedness, and vigilance in order to prevent all attempts to disturb the normal electoral process, and to threaten democracy in Benin. [end recording]

Interior Minister Comments on Support Marches

AB0403221191 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 4 Mar 91

[Text] There will be no more support marches for presidential candidates. The law has forbidden any kind of support marches for candidates for the presidential elections. In view of the recent violent demonstrations, the interior minister has reacted. [Interior Minister] Jean Florentin Felino told Isidore Zinsou the concerns of the law and the attitude that the police should adopt.

[Begin Felino recording] The law has not provided for the organization of support marches during the electoral campaign. It has provided for the organization of public meetings and assemblies by the candidates, which can be attended by their partisans or any interested persons. What happened on Saturday [2 March] in Cotonou, Friday [1 March] in Parakou, and today, Monday, in Natitingou is surprising for several reasons. The measures that were adopted are known, and I have already recalled that in conformity with the law, every public gathering during the electoral campaign must be preceded by a written application addressed to the head of the administrative district in which the gathering will take place. This written application must be signed by three persons who are responsible not only as civilians but also before the law.

According to the report I received from the police, when the march began, they followed the marchers. When this clash began, the police should have intervened immediately by arresting the antagonists, sending them to the police station, registering their evidence, and handing them over to the parties. These are the orders that they had received, which are prescribed by law. We were surprised to learn that during Saturday's march, these measures were not applied. A query was addressed to the central commissioner, who will give me the necessary information so that I can know under what conditions the incidents took place. [end recording]

Kérékou Warns on Rigged Presidential Elections

AB0603111791 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 5 Mar 91

[Excerpt] Presidential candidate Mathieu Kérékou warned against irregularities in the upcoming presidential elections. If it is proved that these elections are

marred by rigging, the president elect will not be sworn in on 1 April. That is what General Mathieu Kerekou stated today in Parakou. Alain-Jean Biyaho reports:

[Begin recording] [Biyaho] As part of his electoral campaign, President Mathieu Kerekou was this morning the guest of the people of Parakou who came in their numbers to hear him. After mingling with the crowd of supporters chanting: Kerekou in power, the president was welcomed by spokesman Mamadou Dounga. After stressing that violence will not prevail in Parakou, the spokesman stated that the people of the northern areas of our country want honest and disinterested men who are committed to developing this country. That is why they have chosen Mathieu Kerekou.

Taking the floor, candidate Mathieu Kerekou said that many things had been said about the former regime. He then informed the people on everyone's responsibility. The president explained why the revolution failed. For President Mathieu Kerekou, our Marxist- Leninist choice, the inability to manage the vital sectors of our state-owned economy, and our behavior were the main factors that led our country to the verge of chaos. We must refrain from cheating in the future because a president who is elected through rigging is only a usurper who cannot speak on behalf of the people. Should that be the case on 10 March, this president will not be sworn in on 1 April. Listen to President Mathieu Kerekou:

[Kerekou] [Words indistinct] whether we like it or not, we want social peace in this country. We must definitely refrain from rigging. [applause] If the president is elected through rigging, he is a usurper. It is not the people who will have elected him, but the gravediggers of social justice. If people steal the ballot papers and hide the rules [words indistinct] and a candidate is elected as president of the Republic, it becomes very serious. He does not represent anything. He represents what he wants. He will have found all that he desires. If a president is elected through rigging, that very president should not have the courage to assume his duties. [applause] [Words indistinct] because we do not want a president who speaks on behalf of the people while his conscience troubles him. If it is proved that a president of Benin is elected through rigging, that president will not be sworn in on 1 April 1991! [applause and shouts]

[Biyaho] After giving the reasons for his candidacy, President Kerekou called for calm and serenity, whatever the case. The other candidates may come and hold their rallies anywhere they want. Violence should be avoided.

[Kerekou] You should not create any disturbances here. You must let all the other candidates, as your spokesman has said, hold their rallies freely. Let them say what they want. Whatever the case, you should not create any more disturbances so that the gravediggers of national unity can infiltrate and commit acts of vandalism. [applause]

[Biyaho] In conclusion, President Kerekou admitted that there was sand in the revolution machinery. He was sorry for that and asked the people to pardon him. He then asked them to vote massively for him next Sunday

because he is, he said, the alpha and omega of the renewal that we have been experiencing for some months in our country. After Parakou, on his way to Madameville, President Kerekou made a stopover at Ndali where another rally was held. [end recording]

[Announcer] Candidate Kerekou's appeal for calm was not heeded by his partisans in Natitingou, who regard this region as their preserve. Candidate Nicephore Soglo had a hard time during his campaign. He was present this morning at Natitingou but could not hold the scheduled rally. Candidate Mathieu Kerekou's candidates prevented him from doing so. Unhappy with the methods they were using to drown out Nicephore Soglo's voice, Kerekou's supporters threw stones at the prime minister. The result was that several vehicles were damaged. The candidate was forced to leave the place hurriedly. [passage omitted]

Kerekou Supporters Reaction to Violence Reported

AB0707143691 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 5 Mar 91

[Text] Yesterday, we informed you of the acts of violence that tainted the election campaign in Parakou, Kotonou, and Natitingou. These acts of violence were perpetrated by supporters of candidate Mathieu Kerekou against other candidates' supporters. You also heard from Parakou the reaction of Mathieu Kerekou, the man himself, who called for calm. This morning during a press release concerning the 2 March march, the chairman of his support committee in Cotonou, said that candidate Kerekou's supporters were not responsible for the assault. The committee accuses reporters of partiality.

We will not comment on the surprising accusation by Mr. Koubli Ibrahima against reporters, because we all know that in such circumstances, everything is placed on the shoulders of journalists. We did, however, note with satisfaction the manifest desire expressed in that press release from the supporters of candidate Mathieu Kerekou to play the game according to the rules and without violence. That is exactly what the press release said. The Kerekou support committee insists on reaffirming their devotion to peace, to the protection of citizens and their property, and calls on institutions of the state to take the necessary measures against troublemakers who, conscious of their upcoming failure, are frenetically seeking to put an end to democracy.

Party Announces Support for Soglo's Candidacy

AB0503214691 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 5 Mar 91

[Statement of the Union for Democracy and National Reconstruction on 2 March 1991 in Cotonou supporting the candidacy of Nicephore Soglo]

[Text] At its national council meeting on 2 March 1991, the Union for Democracy and National Reconstruction, UDRN, considered that the national consensus that has been achieved must be safeguarded to enable our

country to ensure harmonious and balanced development. It affirms that this important part of our people can only be preserved in further development of democracy as a token of our rediscovered social peace, cohesion, and national unity. It affirms that the action initiated by the transitional government must be pursued to ensure continued democratization of our national political life and to ensure moral principles in public life.

Therefore the UDRN is supporting the candidacy of Nicephore Soglo at the presidential elections since Nicephore Soglo is, for our party, the one who best exemplifies national consensus and continuity. The UDRN appeals to all its activists and well wishers to mobilize in order to defend the objectives mentioned above. Finally, it invites all Beninese to vote massively for Nicephore Soglo on 10 March 1991 for the triumph of democracy, the necessary condition for social and economic development. Long live democracy! Long live Benin!

Irregularities Result in 'Partial Elections'

AB0403153191 Dakar PANA in English 1418 GMT
4 Mar 91

[Text] Cotonou, 4 March (ABP-BEN/PANA)—Partial elections will be held in 41 polling stations in Benin on 17 March following the irregularities which occurred during the 17 February legislative elections, the president of the Higher Council of the Republic, Bishop Isidore de Souza announced over the weekend in Cotonou. The Council's president said the irregularities were characterised by the fewness or absence of ballot papers for certain political parties in various polling stations in the North Eastern Benin District of Borgou, which has 10 members of parliament.

Among the elected parliamentarians who will be involved in the partial elections in Borgou will be the minister of rural development and cooperatives, Adamou Ndiaye Mama, whose party had won three seats. The bishop said the election results in five other constituencies, which were contested by certain parties, were valid because the perceived irregularities could not alter the outcome of the polls. Commenting on the irregularities in general, the bishop said these were not beyond what can be observed in all democratic countries.

Bishop de Souza deplored the attitude of eight out of the 14 presidential candidates who called a press conference a day after the election to denounce the electoral fraud which they solely attributed to the transition prime minister and the three parties supporting him in his race for the Presidency. He said the attitude of the presidential aspirants was anti-democratic and anti-national, adding that democracy in Benin could not be endangered by a few irregularities. He also criticised them for denouncing the electoral fraud without referring them to his institution which was established to hear electoral complaints.

RND Party Excludes Presidential Candidate

AB0503222491 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 4 Mar 91

[Text] This morning Joseph Azigne Keke gave a news conference at the Customs, Excise, and Indirect Duties Department headquarters to mark the official beginning of his presidential election campaign. About 50 members, well wishers, and journalists from the official and private press participated in this news conference. The aim of the meeting between the National Rally for Democracy [RND] and the press, Joseph Azigne Keke stated, was to mark the beginning of his official campaign for presidential elections next Sunday.

Three main points attracted the participants' attention. The speaker announced that yesterday the RND leaders unanimously decided to exclude some members from their party, including Moise Mensah. Concerning rumors about a possible coalition with presidential candidate Nicephore Soglo, Joseph Azigne Keke stated that his party, the RND, had not yet decided to merge with another party for the presidential elections. Should his party merge with Mr. Soglo's party, it would be the result of consultations among all RND members, he added.

Regarding the recent violence during the presidential campaign, Joseph Azigne Keke expressed the hope that for the success of democracy, these would only be passing incidents that would not be repeated. The third main point concerned land inherited by the Keke family. The land, according to rumors, was usurped from farmers in Oueme Department. The speaker has deeds for most of the land so it cannot be usurped, he concluded. Here is an excerpt of RND candidate Joseph Azigne Keke's speech:

[Begin Keke recording] We have not yet said whether we are going to merge with such and such a party, though we are sovereign to do so and sovereign to appreciate our interests and do what is right at the right moment. I would like to give you a small piece of information: As of last night Moise Mensah is no longer a member of the RND. Moise Mensah and those who support him are excluded from the RND. Should the possibility arise tomorrow, we should not turn to Moise Mensah. Moise Mensah should be a presidential candidate just as anybody else. If the possibility arises to support another candidate or vote for another candidate, we will not turn to Moise Mensah; we will go another way. [end recording]

Burkina Faso

Compaore Ready To Run in Presidential Elections

AB0303174891 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1230 GMT 2 Mar 91

[Report on interview with Burkina Faso President Blaise Compaore by Greg Pal, Africa No. 1 special correspondent, in Ouagadougou; date not given—carried on the "Midday Magazine" program; passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] We have now come to our Midday Magazine program in this newscast with Burkinabe President Captain Blaise Compaore as our interlocutor. He was interviewed by Greg Pal, our special correspondent in Ouagadougou. The first theme for the discussions is the presidential elections slated for next November. You will hear him. Capt. Blaise Compaore says he is prepared to sit for the elections if he is chosen as a candidate by the Popular Front, which is the governing body in Burkina Faso.

"[Compaore] It is certain that in our country [words indistinct] only the parties and political organizations can present candidates for presidential elections. We, the leadership of the Popular Front, have had the opportunity to hold responsible posts. Within the leadership of this front we had the opportunity to assume responsibilities at the level of the implementation of the Popular Front action program which, I am certain, has received the approval of our popular masses. This means that if the Popular Front chooses me at its July 1991 extraordinary congress as a candidate in the November presidential elections, I think I would accept with enthusiasm, determination, and ardor."

Another aspect of Burkinabe politics discussed by Blaise Compaore is the role of the Popular Front. As you know, the Popular Front was set up in October 1987 following the coup d'etat that brought him to power. Why did you regroup within the same body all the component parts of the Popular Front? Here is the Burkinabe president's reply?

"[Compaore] Because our people needed to develop their country, it seemed necessary to us then to regroup all the progressive forces, that were prepared to agree, in a dynamic alliance to build Burkina Faso. That is why we had these different political shades coming under the same umbrella—the Popular Front—for the execution of an action program which was then accepted by all.

"The fact remains that the introduction of political pluralism would necessarily lead us to the emergence of other forces and other political shades which would not support the Popular Front, though they could contribute to the development of political life in Burkina Faso. That is why, effectively, other forces sprang up that are not within the front. They participate in the pluralist debate in the interest of Burkina Faso. As far as we are concerned, I must say that our advantage is that Burkina Faso has traditionally been pluralistic. Even before our independence, we had different trade unions and many pluralist debates at the political level. That means that it is from this political heritage that we are evolving. We can thus today have easier political contact with the various political shades and we have thus always been able to bring the debate down to the level of transforming reality.

"You understand me when I say that when you bring together different political leanings in order to debate a question, it is certain that you will never reach any conclusion that would let you make progress. If you always bring the debate down to the level of finding

solutions to concrete problems—if you bring together 10 political shades and you ask them to give their viewpoints on the positive transformation of realities like unemployment, education, or health—it is certain that all will rapidly agree on a minimum understanding and cooperation and a minimum program."

UDPB Supports Candidacy

AB0603140491 Paris AFP in French 2142 GMT
4 Mar 91

[Text] Ouagadougou, 4 Mar (AFP)—The Union of Patriots and Democrats of Burkina (UDPB) issued a motion today expressing support for Captain Blaise Compaore as a candidate for the next presidential election slated for 3 November 1991. The UDPB which is the first political organization to clearly declare its support for Blaise Compaore's candidacy, pointed out that by supporting his candidacy the UDPB is acting as a "link between all of Burkina Faso's political organizations."

The UDPB, which emerged from the African Democratic Rally (RDA), is one of the seven member political organizations of the Popular Front (supreme political organ). Mr. Joseph Ouedraogo, UDPB's secretary general, said he hoped that Capt. Blaise Compaore's candidacy would be adopted as a "national candidacy."

Blaise Compaore, head of the revolutionary government, last week hinted at his desire to stand in the forthcoming presidential elections stating that the issue would be discussed in July at the congress of the Popular Front which he chairs.

NPFL's Taylor, Compaore on Liberia Peace Plan

AB0403163891 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1230 GMT 3 Mar 91

[Report on news conference by Charles Taylor, leader of Liberia's National Patriotic Front of Liberia; and interview with Burkina Faso President Blaise Compaore by Greg Pal, Africa No. 1 special correspondent, in Ouagadougou; dates not given]

[Text] The all-Liberia National Conference has been slated for 15 March in Monrovia. Charles Taylor, one of the main Liberian rebel leaders, has expressed the hope that this meeting will lead to the adoption of a Liberian peace plan, Lucien Mpoombou:

[Mpoombou] Yes, we want a Liberian solution to the Liberian crisis—This, in substance, is what the leader of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia [NPFL] said at his press conference he yesterday in Ouagadougou, the capital of Burkina Faso. This is not the first time that Taylor, who acknowledges having accepted the proposals of the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS], has taken such a stand. Simply put, the NPFL chairman does not agree with the plan of the subregional organization, which, according to him, is seeking to impose a settlement. He even goes on to say that he cannot allow anyone to tell

Liberians whom to elect, when to hold elections, or even how exactly peace may be restored in Liberia.

Indeed, for the man who presently controls 12 out of Liberia's 13 counties, the Liberian people alone have the final say. He is, undoubtedly, alluding to the decision made at the last Bamako ECOWAS summit, according to which no factional leader is eligible to lead the future interim government that will be established during the national conference scheduled to take place in 12 days' time. Furthermore, Charles Taylor declares that he is not seeking to govern Liberia himself, adding that his organization has competent men to lead this interim government...

[Announcer, interrupting] Thank you, Lucien Mpoumbou. Charles Taylor has, thus, unequivocally rejected the ECOWAS peace plan, as you pointed out. The NPFL leader reaffirmed his commitment to the search for a Liberian solution. This position readily brings to mind the position that the president of Burkina Faso has always defended. In an exclusive interview granted to Greg Paul, our special correspondent in Ouagadougou, Captain Blaise Compaore first indicated that his country's aim, first and foremost, was to associate with the Liberian people in the face of the conflict that is tearing it apart.

[Begin Compaore recording] Our aim has, first and foremost, been to associate with the Liberian people. That country experienced Samuel Doe's fierce dictatorship; thousands of citizens were massacred and assassinated and Liberian citizens in their hundreds and thousands took refuge almost everywhere—in the Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso, et cetera. Therefore, by associating with this struggle, we first of all wanted to associate with the Liberian people so as to help them regain their freedom and dignity, as well as to simultaneously help Africa present a much more amenable and attractive image to our foreign partners.

Secondly, it should be stated that throughout this conflict, we constantly demonstrated our willingness to bring the parties around to meeting and talking. And you should know that at the Bamako meeting, we submitted a request in that regard long beforehand, and in the report of the conference, it was especially mentioned that the request for a meeting of the parties came from Burkina Faso. This, in other words, means we have always had peace initiatives, you see, so that the parties may sit down and talk, even with Samuel Doe. But this was not always understood. And quite recently, in Lome, at the meeting of the Standing Mediation Committee, we were also able to make our contribution toward arriving at a peaceful settlement of this problem.

In other words, therefore, contrary to what is being said, we have never had any special preference for such and such a person, or such and such a faction. But when we, Burkina Faso, are asked to recognize, for instance, an amorphous government that was concocted and set up in a country, a situation we are told to resist elsewhere, we say: No, we cannot recognize this kind of government. We think it is

up to Liberians themselves to meet and organize their political life without any interference whatsoever, without the hegemony of any state whatsoever. This is roughly... [changes thought] And on that score, this assessment has led some people to say that it is all because we have chosen some other government. No, I think that on a lot of issues, we have always acted on the basis of principle, and this has not always been understood. But I must stay that our stand has always been guided by a desire to find a political solution to this problem. [end recording]

Ruling Popular Front Threatened by Growing ADF

AB0803123591 London BBC World Service
in English 0630 GMT 7 Mar 91

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[Text] Further evidence has been emerging that Burkina Faso really means business over the government's intention to give up the Marxist image. This month the IMF is due to give its formal approval to an economic recovery plan for Burkina Faso, and people there are beginning to put ideas forward as to what new political path the country should take. One person who is in the forefront of this debate is Herman Yameogo. He is the son of the country's first president, and he was forced out of the ruling Popular Front Government last year. Now Herman Yameogo has formed his own political party, the Alliance for Democracy and Federation, ADF. Well as we hear in this report sent by Allison Boyer from Ouagadougou, being outside the Popular Front has not in any way limited Mr. Yameogo's ambitions.

[Begin Boyer recording] If the presidential elections do take place in November, the ADF appears to be the party which could have a significant impact on the political status quo here. When I spoke yesterday to Herman Yameogo, the president of the ADF, he was in no doubt that he is now the leader of the opposition.

A 43-year-old magistrate, Herman Yameogo is a soft spoken man who does not hide his disapproval for the kind of elitist politics for which the Popular Front has, apparently, now become so well known. He told me that if elected president of the country, he would, and I quote, do away with the useless kind of revolutionary rhetoric still so dear to the Popular Front, and he warned that the ruling party appears to be using the proliferation of parties in the country as window dressing. He told me that the ADF would now consider fusing with other opposition groups if that is what it would take to unseat the dominant forces of the Popular Front.

Several parties have indicated that they may well merge under Yameogo's leadership, and there is some speculation that some of the political parties presently in the Popular Front are going to leave and shift their alliance to the opposition group. Undoubtedly, the ruling party is finding it difficult to stop Yameogo's momentum, but they appear to think that they have now found his soft spot, saying he has nothing behind him but the tarnished reputation of his father.

Yameogo is not getting involved in the insult hurling at the moment, but is rather challenging the Popular Front to keep true to the promises that it has already made. At the moment, the ADF says that their main concern is that the forthcoming elections do take place and that they are conducted fairly and without irregularity. [end recording]

Communist Group Ends Congress, Changes Name

*AB0603221891 Ouagadougou Domestic Service
in French 1900 GMT 6 Mar 91*

[Text] The Burkinabe Communist Group, GCB, has decided to change its name. Following its extraordinary congress on 2 and 3 March in Ouagadougou, the GCB changed its name to the Movement for Socialist Democracy, MDS. The movement's leaders point out that this change was due to the need for revolutionaries to constantly seek the most appropriate ways to advance the people's struggle.

Liberia

Clashes in Grand Gedeh; Ivorian Troops There

*AB0703193991 London BBC World Service
in English 1709 GMT 7 Mar 91*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Even as preparations are in hand for a big peace meeting in Monrovia next week, there are reports of fresh fighting in Liberia involving the remnants of the Special Anti-Terrorist Unit, SATU, led by (John Beley) and loyal to the late President Samuel Doe. The fighting is going on in Grand Gedeh County in northeastern Liberia, on the border with Ivory Coast. From Abidjan John Bambo of THE LIBERIAN DAILY OBSERVER telexed this report.

[Begin studio announcer recording] The Government of Ivory Coast is yesterday reported to have dispatched 2,000 troops to its border with Liberia to stop the fighting overspilling on to its territory. According to refugees fleeing from Grand Gedeh, the fighting is concentrated in the lower and upper regions of the county. Eyewitnesses also say that it has been going on for more than a month. This recent fighting is said to have started when SATU and other members of President Doe's Krahn tribe attacked members of the Grebo tribe who are also from lower Grand Gedeh.

According to accounts (John Beley)'s group allegedly attacked the Grebos, because they accused them of supporting the activities of Charles Taylor's rebels in the county. However, these accounts have been denied by Mr. (Phillip Dehea), a former representative for Grand Gedeh County and Mr. Gabriel Myers, a former Liberian ambassador to Italy. In an interview, they claimed that it was rebels loyal to Charles Taylor who started the clashes by attacking Krahn people in Grand Gedeh. The Krahn are then said to have responded in

self-defense. Several towns and villages in predominantly Grebo rebel district are said to have been burned and the fighting is now said to be concentrated around President Doe's hometown of Tuzon.

It may be recalled that during the abortive November 12th invasion in 1985, members of the Grebo tribe were attacked by Samuel Doe's forces in the same region. They were then also accused of supporting rebels.

Meanwhile, the people of lower and upper Grand Gedeh have appealed to ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] and the Interim Government to help bring an end to the situation in that part of Liberia, as it is a breach of the cease-fire that was agreed a few months ago. [end recording]

Sawyer Said 'Unqualified' for Leadership Race

*AB0503142691 Gbarnga Radio ELBC
in English 1900 GMT 4 Mar 91*

[Station commentary]

[Text] The leader of the people's popular uprising in Liberia, Charles Gankay Taylor, recently ended the first leg of a nationwide county tour to vividly explain the aims and policies of his NPLA [National Patriotic Legislative Assembly] government, as well as his desire to head the interim leadership of the March 15 election.

Phase one of the campaign took Mr. Taylor to the western region of Liberia where he was greeted by thousands of citizens who said they had anxiously awaited his visits to their respective counties. A statement of support and solidarity was presented to the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] leader, including a condemnation of the presence of more than 20,000 foreign troops who are reportedly operating under the name ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] peacekeeping force. This mission, the citizens said, was against the will of the Liberian people.

The citizens said while they stand ready to participate in the ensuing interim leadership election, there are several factors which constitute a stumbling block for Sawyer to lead this nation. Pertinent among these factors is his low key political misconception about the current state of affairs in Liberia, which has rendered him unqualified to run in the interim leadership race. Apart from Amos Sawyer's long years of absence from Liberia, he, Sawyer, and several members of his cabinet must account for the present state of fear, terror, anarchy, and confusion which have been engulfed on the people of this country for the past decade. [sentence as heard] Liberians have suffered serious human degradation, hardship, and suffering, as well as low international image within the world community.

Constitutionally, Amos Sawyer, as chairman of the Second Republican constitution-drafting commission in Liberia, made many mistakes when he approved and provided clauses which armed the dictatorial regime of

Samuel Doe to rule this country for more than 10 years, without a sound political and economic reform program. Liberians can recall that when Amos Sawyer, as architect of the approved constitution, said to the world, and I quote: These are the weaknesses that I have found in the past of some men, unquote. [Words indistinct] that the constitution he presented to Doe could only become effective when its articles are put into proper motion. Indeed, little did Amos Sawyer know that town trap is not only for [word indistinct] alone. The goats, chickens, and all other animals in the town could be caught by it.

Today, the peak at which the conflict in Liberia has reached, and its shifting of blame, clearly portrays Dr. Sawyer's weakness—hence his five-chapter national document which he, himself, put to work. This (?axiom) has not only embarrassed Sawyer's political future but has also let down his country and people [words indistinct].

On the other hand, Amos Sawyer could not also escape blame for the hundreds of lives killed in this country, following the August 24, 1984 student revolt at the University of Liberia on account of his untimely dismissal from the university by the Doe administration. Consequently, Amos Sawyer (?crept) into hiding when human blood swept across this nation, while hundreds of young female university students were raped and tortured by soldiers of the Doe regime. Why didn't he, Sawyer, come to free our people.

Besides, Dr. Sawyer's political philosophy cannot also go unquestioned by the people, because for time and again this Sawyer has told the world that he strongly supports socialism as against the age-old tradition of the Liberian people. Dr. Sawyer is a founding member of the inter-national [as heard] movement, such as the Movement for Justice in Africa, MOJA, and also a strong supporter of the misguided philosophy of Dr. Togba-Nah Tipoteh and his family, and Bacchus Matthews' group who once promised the people of this country that they could supply them with rice at the minimum cost of \$10 a bag. Where is that rice?

Again, with just a few days in power, we have monitored reports of maladministration and unfair distribution of the scarce food aid sent to the starving population of Monrovia, while his 20,000 foreign troops, mainly Nigerian-dominated, continue to kill our citizens.

It is against this background that the Liberian people must begin to speak and voice out those very things seen during the struggle over the last decade. As Liberians, let us not forget that our long desire for a true revolution in this country could not have been masterminded by anyone else other than Charles Gankay Taylor, that Taylor has come with a renewed sense of mission, and that his vision for a new deal is unquestionable, as unity, peace, and progress are his hallmarks for the building of a new nation, a nation in which there will be no more corruption, tribalism, greed, or nepotism, and a nation in which there will be no more monkey work, baboon enjoy.

Muslim Council on Attack on NPFL Rebels

AB0503112491 Monrovia Radio ELBC
in English 0900 GMT 5 Mar 91

[Text] The National Muslim Council of Liberia says acts that continue to divide the people of Liberia must be discouraged. A release from the council said Liberia is a small nation which cannot continue to promote division among citizens of this country.

The statement from the Muslim Council comes in the wake of a recent newspaper report which alleged that a group of armed Muslims had attacked forces of the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] in Lofa County. While it is difficult to confirm or deny this report, the release (?went on), the National Muslim Council of Liberia as an integral part of the Interfaith Mediation Committee attaches serious concern to the news report. The council is, therefore, calling on the leaders of the NPFL to allow local and foreign journalists to visit the area in question for an independent assessment of the situation.

NPFL Reportedly Ready To Lay Down Arms

AB0503132091 Monrovia Radio ELBC
in English 0900 GMT 5 Mar 91

[Text] Fighters of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia [NPFL] on the Monrovia-Robertsfield Highway and Mount Barclay have expressed their desire to return home to their families. The NPFL soldiers were speaking yesterday when a corps of local journalists toured the frontline on the Monrovia-Robertsfield highway and the Mount Barclay-Kakata highway. Some of the NPFL soldiers told journalists that they now want peace and are prepared to lay down their arms if told to do so by the leadership of the NPFL.

The commanding officer of Ghanbat 2, Lieutenant Colonel J.B. Danquah, who accompanied the corps of local journalists, disclosed that some NPFL soldiers had surrendered to his battalion, adding that morale is low among them.

Mali

Police Hold 7 CNID Activists for Questioning

AB0403171691 Paris AFP in French 1719 GMT
2 Mar 91

[Text] Bamako, 2 Mar (AFP)—Seven activists of the National Committee for a Democratic Initiative (CNID—an association fighting for a multiparty system in Mali)—including a woman, were called in for questioning Friday evening [1 March] in Bamako by the police, it was learned today from the association. These sources said that the CNID activists, who belong to a unit of their association in Bamako, were accused by the police of planning to abduct the daughter of a dignitary of the Malian regime. According to these sources, the police based their accusation on a document that security forces had presented as the minutes of the CNID

unit's executive committee meeting. The seven activists denied the charges and described the document as "a forgery and a trap".

According to the same source, the CNID protested that its members, who were transferred from a police station to a judiciary investigation unit, were being kept in custody. The CNID informed the Malian Association of Human Rights of their detention.

The CNID, which was created last year, has been struggling since last October with another association, the Alliance for Democracy in Mali (ADEMA), for the immediate installation of democracy and a multiparty system in the country. These two associations, joined by three others, announced yesterday evening that they would organize a peaceful demonstration on Sunday [3 March] to demand a multiparty system.

5 Associations Issue Statement on Demonstrations

AB0403223791 Paris AFP in French 1727 GMT
3 Mar 91

[Text] Bamako, 3 Mar (AFP)—The Malian authorities "are trying to jeopardize the course of history by opposing peaceful demonstrations," according to the five organizations that organized yesterday's march in favor of multipartyism, a march that brought together thousands of people in the streets of Bamako. The police used tear gas against the demonstrators and tanks were stationed at strategic places in the town.

The leaders of the Democratic Union of Malian People [UDPM], with no other reason than fear of democracy, which according to them means a loss of privileges, have deliberately precipitated violence in our country, the organizers said in a statement read several times during the demonstrations.

"To those who are peacefully calling for democracy and freedom, they replied by using batons and teargas. They opened fire on students whose only demand was for negotiations on decent study conditions, killing at least about 15 and wounding hundreds of them," the statement also said.

The organizations—the Alliance for Democracy in Mali (ADEMA); the National Committee for Democratic Association Initiative (CNID); the Free and Democratic Youth (JLD); the Youth Association for Democracy and Progress (AJDP); and the Association of Young Graduates Initiating and Seeking Employment (ADIDE), denounced "the similar acts of brutality, ferocity, and gratuitous violence that have taken place in all the towns of our formerly confident country."

"Today's march is not only a protest against the violation of all civic and political rights by the authorities. It is also the renewal of our rejection of a false democracy, the very kind of democracy that the ruling authorities want to brew for us behind closed doors at that very

conclave which the forthcoming UDPM congress represents," the statement added.

"It is the renewal of our appeal for a sovereign national conference... which is the only means to guarantee a veritable break with the past and the introduction of a democratic republic," the statement concluded.

Transport Minister Ends Working Visit to Algeria

AB0603165491 Bamako Domestic Service
in French 1500 GMT 4 Mar 91

[Text] Zeni Moulaye, minister of transport and tourism, returned to Bamako this weekend after a five-day visit to Algeria at the invitation of his Algerian counterpart and in line with cooperation between Mali and Algeria. During his visit, Zeni Moulaye was received by President Chadli Bendjedid to whom he delivered a message from President General Moussa Traore.

The Algerian and Malian delegations held lengthy discussions on modalities governing transporting goods and people between our countries by road. The delegations signed a cooperation agreement on international transport and transit of goods and passengers. Obviously, this agreement will facilitate circulating goods and people between Algiers and Bamako and will strengthen development of our transport network to hook up with the [word indistinct] work in the future.

Niger

Saibou Returns, Says Libya Visit Satisfactory

AB0503132491 Niamey Domestic Service
in French 0545 GMT 5 Mar 91

[Text] The head of state, General Ali Saibou, returned to Niamey early yesterday evening after a short working and friendly visit to Libya. The head of state was welcomed by the prime minister and the chief of Army staff. Also present at the airport were the speaker of the National Assembly, the chairman of the National Development Council, and members of government. General Ali Saibou told newsmen he was very satisfied with his Libyan visit:

[Begin Saibou recording] I am back from Sidra, in Libya where I met my brother and friend, President al-Qadhafi. This visit is in line with regular contacts with my colleagues from neighboring and friendly countries. I took this opportunity to have a fruitful exchange of views with the leader of the Libyan Revolution on issues of common interest and current international issues.

On the sidelines of our talks, our two delegations held a working session during which cooperation between Niger and Libya and prospects for its reactivation were thoroughly reviewed. The two delegations expressed satisfaction with the good bonds of cooperation existing between our two countries and the need to maintain what has already been achieved. They also stressed the

need to accelerate the implementation of the agreements signed in economic and cultural sectors, and to proceed, as soon as possible, with the identification of new projects.

My delegation and I, were well received in Libya whose authorities were available and willing to promote, in concrete terms, fruitful and diversified cooperation between our two countries. I am very satisfied with my short visit to Libya and I would like to express sincere gratitude to my brother and friend President al-Qadhdhafi and to the Libyan people for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded my delegation and I. [end recording]

Opposition Leaders Present Grievances to Saibou

*AB0403185691 Libreville Africa No. 1
in French 1230 GMT 3 Mar 91*

[Text] President Ali Saibou has held a meeting with the leaders of the 10 opposition parties. During the meeting, the opposition parties expressed their grievances. The head of state gave them the green light to start their campaigns. Here is a report from Niamey by Malam Yaro:

[Begin Yaro recording] During the meeting, President Ali Saibou expressed his determination to fully carry out the democratization process, which has already begun in the country. However, he warned the leaders of the political parties against any division in the country. To that effect, he called for all political campaigns to help strengthen the country's very fragile national unity.

Among the grievances expressed by the leaders of the political parties, we can cite free access to the media. In this regard, the political parties asked the president of the Republic, leader of the National Movement of the Development Society, the ruling party, to immediately take appropriate measures to ensure equal rights and obligations for all political parties and trade unions regarding access to means of communications.

The political parties, among other groups, have asked that a national commission be set up to prepare for a national conference, an irreversible and sovereign act. They said they will not accept any initiative to form a transition government that does not emanate from the national conference. We noted that their demands include the return of the military to their barracks and the invalidation of the ballots on adoption of the National Charter and Constitution designed by the ruling party.

It should be recalled that while the final number of political parties has not yet been set, 10 political parties have received provisional letters of approval. We can cite, among others, the Socialist and Democratic Convention; [name indistinct], the PNDS [expansion unknown]; Sawaba [Niger Democratic Union-Sawaba]; the African Democratic Rally, RDA; and others. [end recording]

Ambassador to Kuwait To Return 'Very Soon'

*AB0403103491 Dakar PANA in French 1017 GMT
4 Mar 91*

[Text] Niamey, 4 Mar (ANP/PANA)—Niger President General Ali Saibou decided to reopen the Niger Embassy in Kuwait City immediately, according to a communique from the Niger Ministry of Foreign Affairs made public Sunday in Niamey. Ambassador Abdou Malam Moussa will be in Kuwait very soon, according to the same source.

Nigeria

Babangida Receives Togolese Minister With Message

*AB0603134891 Lagos Domestic Service
in English 2100 GMT 5 Mar 92*

[Text] Togo has commended Nigeria's positive contribution at the last summit meeting of the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] Standing Mediation Committee on the Liberian crisis. The commendation was given today by the Togolese foreign minister, Mr. Yaovi Adodo, when he delivered a special message from President Gnassingbe Eyadema to General Ibrahim Babangida. The Togolese foreign minister also briefed Gen. Babangida on developments on the Liberian situation since the last summit as well as issues of common interest to Nigeria and Togo.

Minister Dispels Doubts on Military Handover

*AB0603145891 Lagos Domestic Service
in English 1800 GMT 4 Mar 91*

[Text] The minister of information, Chief Alex Akinyele, has again disabused the minds of critics who believe the present administration will not hand over to an elected government. He told correspondent Joseph Azore that such an opinion was baseless. The minister also spoke on his ministry's preparation for OAU information ministers conference in Lagos. Chief Akinyele first commented on criticisms that government has no plans to hand over power.

[Begin recording] [Akinyele] It is an opinion ground without any basis. I am aware that the Federal Military Government has set out a transition to civil rule come 1992 and the Federal Military Government is executing the plan according to the letter as scheduled. I was able to let all my colleagues in the information industry understand that the government is sincere in its intention to hand over power in 1992.

For instance, the census operation is one indication that the Federal Military Government wants those who are coming in to come on a very clean plate so that they do not have any reason to say this is not in place, this is not in place. The government's transition to civil rule program is so elastic and so well-founded that it guarantees continuity of government.

There is no reason why anybody should think that the military government will not hand over power in 1992 and, furthermore, I want those doubting Thomases to understand that General Babangida enjoys such a very great international respect, credibility that he will not do anything to allow any kind of deviation from his promise to affect his established international credibility and integrity. In my opinion, come rain, come sunshine, the military government will hand over power to a democratically elected civilian administration come 1992. I have sold the idea to all information commissioners throughout the federation and to their....[changes thought] destined to conserve the idea because I am very positive about my opinion that the Federal Military Government is still (?absolutely) committed to hand over power in 1992.

[Azoro] As I hear, you went to Addis Ababa and you are the chairman of the OAU information ministers. What [words indistinct] afterwards?

[Akinyele] Thank you. My mission is clearly that of familiarizing myself with the secretariat, with personnel in the secretariat, but at the same time to use the opportunity to sell myself to them as the new chairman of the secretariat. That is just all.

[Azoro] Minister, when is the next meeting going to take place, and do you have new strategies you would like to [words indistinct] innovations?

[Akinyele] Yes, the next meeting is for March 22 to 24 here in Lagos. When I get to the secretariat in Addis Ababa, I will go through all the reading materials there, study the people, see the minutes of the last meeting and to what extent outstanding matters have been executed. From the knowledge of these, I will be able to know my strategy for the Lagos meeting of March. [end recording]

UN Ambassador on Changing 'UN System'

AB0503180491 Dakar PANA in English 1737 GMT
5 Mar 91

[Text] Lagos, 5 March (PANA)—Nigeria's ambassador to the UN, Professor Ibrahim Gambari, has called for a redefinition of the goals of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) to make it more relevant to the changing realities of the international political system. Gambari said Tuesday in Lagos that the NAM faced the danger of being made irrelevant now that [word indistinct] blocs are getting close. He called for a thoroughly researched option, a strategy that would be difficult to fault, to enable the developed world see the necessity to work with the Third World. The ambassador also expressed the fear that with the coming together of the superpowers, the African perspective could be greatly threatened.

Gambari also observed that with the changing scope of international relations, there was need to restructure the

UN system. He recalled that at the UN's foundation in 1945, Africa had only two member-countries, adding that with about a third of its membership at the moment, there was need for an African permanent representation in the Security Council, for fairness, equitability and geographical spread. Gambari also spoke on the agitation for an African to be elected to the office of UN secretary-general, saying that nationals of countries in Europe, Asia and Latin America have had the chance to hold the office.

Joint ASEAN Chamber of Commerce Inaugurated

AB0403224591 Dakar PANA in English 1844 GMT
4 Mar 91

[Text] Lagos, 4 March (NAN/PANA)—The Nigerian minister of external affairs, Maj. Gen. Ike Nwachukwu has urged developing countries to evolve new strategies and create enduring economic links to enable them face the challenges of a common European market by the year 1992. Maj. Gen. Nwachukwu made the remark in Lagos Monday at the inauguration of the Nigerian-ASEAN chamber of commerce.

He said developing economies would be operating in a more competitive world market in the 1990's and would require better infrastructure, advanced technology and economies of scale to be able to cope with the challenges. He regretted that most Third World countries were economically disadvantaged to compete with the emerging economic blocs of the world.

The minister said the chamber would promote meaningful economic relations between Nigeria and the ASEAN countries at government and private, contractor levels, adding that the gesture represented the response of the organised private sector to the development of Nigeria's economy.

He appealed to entrepreneurs in the ASEAN countries and Nigeria to explore and develop the immense natural and human resources in their economies for the good of their peoples. He stated that the present Nigerian administration had entered into an enduring partnership with the private sector and cultivated trade links with foreign countries with a view to encouraging foreign investment.

Nwachukwu said although the volume of trade between Nigeria and ASEAN countries was very low, prospects existed for increased industrial cooperation.

The president of the chamber, Dr. Folarin Gbadebo-Smith, said the chamber would encourage joint venture projects between Nigeria and ASEAN businessmen and provide effective information and facilities that would expose members to the widest range of goods and services at reduced costs.

He said developing countries needed to react positively to trends in the new and larger economic blocs of the European Community, U.S.-Canada and Asia.

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